HE HOMELESS: Six Profiles POLITICS: Jean Charest's Challenge

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

MARCH 23, 1998



Shania Revealed

The Queen of Country now wants to prove herself onstage

$3.95

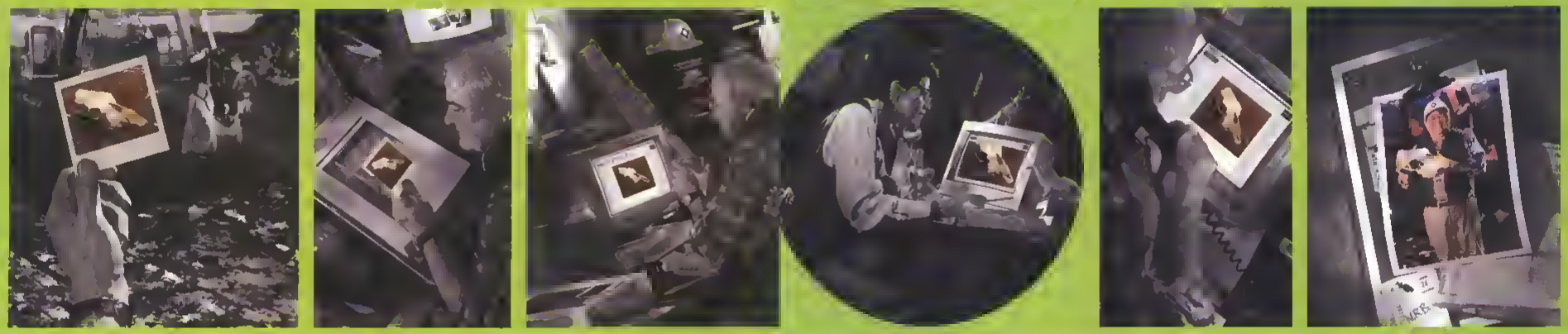
12

20058 70001 3

Only Polaroid has a digital solution

that makes identifying a fossilized *Bovidae bos taurus* in the foundational excavation of a $137 million construction site

this simple.



1:32 pm
A backhoe unearths what project foreman Bob Kehler believes could be a 150-million year old Stegosaurus along with a potentially costly 6 month construction delay. He snaps a picture with his Polaroid instant camera. Nice skull, don't you think?

1:39 pm
Bob scans the photo using the new Polaroid DirectPhoto software and his own scanner. With DirectPhoto using your scanner is really simple.

1:41 pm
With just a few simple clicks, Bob attaches the picture to an e-mail and sends it to a University of Toronto paleontologist.

2:15 pm
Mary Donnelle, Ph.D., picks up her e-mail along with the fossil photo that carries its own tiny piece of software. So even though Dr. Donnelle doesn't have DirectPhoto, she can still closely examine the picture's details.

2:26 pm
Dr. Donnelle phones Bob at the worksite. It's a nice picture. – of a cow's head.

2:34 pm
Work resumes. But not before the boys put together a little tribute using Polaroid's own Inkjet Photo Paper. Nice print, too. And for what could've been a complex problem, Polaroid made the digital solution really simple from beginning to end.



The digital solution from Polaroid – Instant camera, DirectPhoto software, and Inkjet Photo Paper.

Polaroid DirectPhoto software is available for PC compatible computers and peripherals.

Polaroid

1 800 308-3297
For more information

The test drivers at Consumers Digest
wanted to give us the award personally,
but we've yet to get them out of the car.



It's no surprise the 1998 Century by Buick has been awarded the Consumers Digest Best Buy Award. After all, the Best Buy Award goes to a product that offers the best value for your money. We've taken many of the competitors' luxury features and made them standard. And its spacious interior creates an environment that will even bring comfort to those painfully long trips.

In fact, the only real shocker is all the extras you get for the price you pay. For more information on the Century, please visit our web site at www.gmcanada.com™ or call 1-800-GM-DRIVE.

CONSUMERS DIGEST BEST BUY

$25,215*

Century by BUICK

*Starting MSRP for 1998 Buick Century Custom base model is $25 215 plus freight ($785) (MSRP is $26 000 including freight). Licence, insurance and taxes are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Ask your dealer for details. www.gmcanada.com is a trademark of General Motors Corporation.

Maclean's CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

This Week

MARCH 23 1998 VOL 111 NO 12

Departments

EDITORIAL 4

LETTERS 6

OPENING NOTES/PASSAGES 14

CANADA/SPECIAL REPORT 16

CANADA 24
In a *Maclean's* interview, the three surviving Dionne quints discuss their new millionaire status and ponder a brighter future.

WORLD 30
Indonesia's strongman faces mounting defiance; the Royal Family downsizes; in *Primary Colors*, art imitates Bill Clinton

BUSINESS 38
An $11.8-billion hydro project may help Quebec and Newfoundland set aside an old grievance; visionaries see profits in trading the right to pollute

COVER 48

TECHNOLOGY 58
One Canadian company and two U.S. rivals offer Internet access through the TV set.

PEOPLE 60

EDUCATION NOTES 62
Hip-hop is moving into the classroom at the University of Alberta; British Columbia is topping up its universities; Ontario principals face a critical choice

HEALTH 63
A campaign is under way to start hearts and save lives by teaching high-school students how to administer CPR

TRAVEL 68

Columns

ANTHONY WILSON SMITH 13

DEIRDRE McMURDY 42

PETER C. NEWMAN 46

ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM 68

Maclean's on the Internet:
http://www.macleans.ca

Maclean's is published weekly, except for one double-issue at year end, by Maclean Hunter Publishing Limited, Maclean Hunter Building, 777 Bay St., Toronto, Ont., M5W 1A7. Contents Copyright© 1998 by Maclean Hunter Publishing Limited, may not be reprinted without permission. *Maclean's* ISSN 0834 3292. Full subscription prices for one year, including shipping, handling and taxes: Canada $51.66, except in Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, $55.53. CANADIAN POSTMASTER: Undeliverable copies and change of address to: *Maclean's*, P.O. Box 1600, Postal Station A, Toronto, Ont., M5W 2M8. Publications mail registration number 1260. U.S. POSTMASTER: Periodicals postage paid at Buffalo, N.Y. USPS 106710. Send address changes (form 3579) to *Maclean's*, P.O. Box 4541, Buffalo, N.Y. 14240.

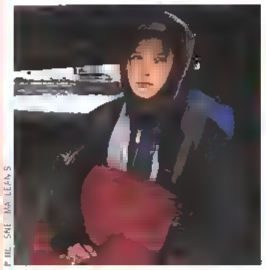


Cover

48 Shania Twain revealed

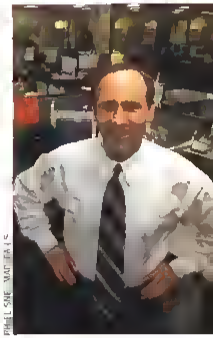
By goosing the tired country format with a well-aimed kick of sexy common sense, the Queen of Country has sold more albums than any other female singer in the genre—without performing live. Now, Shania Twain is preparing to strut her stuff onstage.

Features



16 SPECIAL REPORT
The homeless: down and out

Domestic violence, drugs and poverty are forcing more and more people onto the streets. Six case histories explore the lives of people who ended up without a home



66
Playing the airfare game

As airlines strive to fill their full-fare seats with revolving prices, travellers are shopping for loopholes to cut the rising costs of travel.

24
Jean Charest's challenge

As the federal Tory leader studies a switch to the Quebec Liberals, the Canadian political landscape is poised for major change



From The Editor

The Right Hon. Mr. Malaprop



In 1920, Winston Churchill remarked that there is only a slight difference between war and politics. "In war," he added, "you can only be killed once, but in politics many times." The age of the scrum and the 15-second clip only accentuates the perils for people in public life. Take the Speaker of the Commons and the newest judge on the Supreme Court—please. Last week, both had to apologize for ill-advised remarks.

Their reactions were swift. On Saturday night, Justice Ian Binnie described initiation rituals at an ancient Osgoode Hall legal fraternity as reminiscent of a "faggoty dress-up party." By last Wednesday, he had posted a written apology. By Friday, the incident was top of the news, complete with comments from members of the gay community who rightly noted Binnie's insensitivity. Commons Speaker Gilbert (Gib) Parent, apparently trying to be nice to a visiting delegation of Cuban officials, allowed on Monday that he saw no difference between Cuba's one-party state and New Brunswick, which elected 58 Liberals in the 58 seats at stake in the 1987 election. For good measure, Parent referred to Cuba's "so-called" political prisoners. By Wednesday, he too had apologized in a written statement.





RENE JOHNSTON (2); CANAPRESS

Parent. Binnie (right): gaffes that turn the tide

Both men will likely survive their gaffes, as have legions of their predecessors. John Robert Columbo's marvellous *New Canadian Quotations* (1987) records a whole series of quotes that have stood the test of time, whether the perpetrators like it or not. In the 1974 election, a young man asked Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau what to tell a friend who could not afford a house in Toronto. Trudeau: "Tell him to move to Regina." Eugene Whelan, the then-Liberal minister of agriculture, once opposed a measure by saying: "We'd be giving them carte la blanche." Former Social Credit leader Robert Thompson declared: "If this thing starts to snowball, it will catch fire right across the country."

The landscape is also littered with remarks that have turned the tide of public affairs. In 1980, Lise Payette, a former Parti Quebecois cabinet minister, dismissed the women of Quebec who were voting against independence as "a bunch of Yvettes," the plain-Jane character in Quebec's primary school readers. The gaffe rallied women against the separatists. In a debate with Tory leader Brian Mulroney in 1984, Liberal Prime Minister John Turner stumbled badly on the issue of appointing a stableful of Liberals to patronage posts when he declared: "I had no option." Mulroney: "You, sir, had an option." And in the 1984 Conservative leadership campaign, candidate John Crosbie, angered by a press scrum, ill-advisedly dismissed his inability to speak French by saying: "I can't talk to the Chinese people in their own language either."

In public life, a person sometimes can be only a sentence removed from oblivion.

Robert Lewis

Newsroom Notes:

Selling Shania

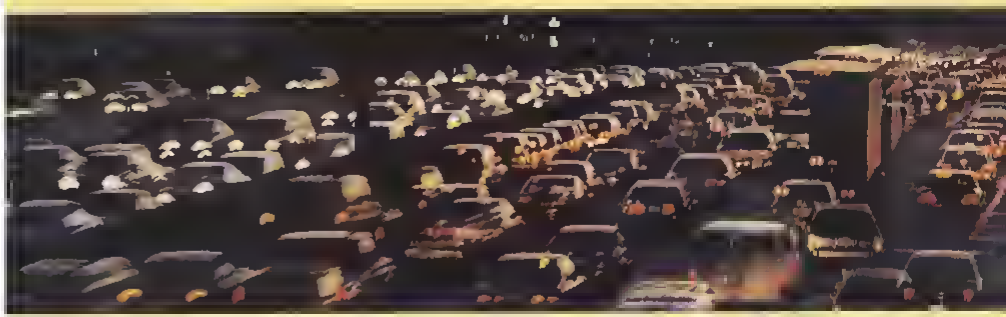
When Senior Writer Brian D. Johnson and Photographer Phill Snel travelled to Nashville for this week's cover story on Shania Twain, they found themselves in the middle of an annual conference of some 2,000 country radio broadcasters. Winning over that constituency is the key to success in country music, and Twain—who has sold more albums than any female country singer in history—was in huge demand.



PHILL SNEL/MACLEAN'S

Johnson in Nashville with Twain: relentless publicity

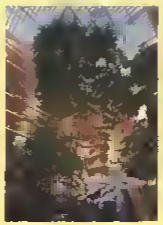
"It was a zoo," says Johnson, "and we had to compete for her attention. But we got to observe Shania Twain in her element—doing relentless publicity. And that turned out to be just as revealing as the time alone with her." Johnson also spent an afternoon watching Twain rehearse and perform in a Nashville TV studio, becoming the first Canadian journalist to get a glimpse of her onstage with her new nine-piece band. Remarkably, Twain has reached superstar status without performing in concert. Now, as she prepares a Canadian tour that kicks off in Sudbury, Ont., on May 29, anticipation is running high. From her performance in Nashville, says Johnson, "any doubts that she can handle herself onstage can be laid to rest."



Sometimes what separates work from relaxation is miles of traffic



Sometimes it's just a door.



Embassy Suites® hotel is the perfect environment for business travelers. After working late in one room of your suite, a restful night's sleep is just next door. Enjoy our evening reception.* Stretch out in an open atrium. Then recharge in the morning with a free, cooked-to-order breakfast. Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed. Stay at Embassy Suites hotel on your next business trip. And shorten the distance between work and relaxation.

EMBASSY SUITES®

www.embassy-suites.com

*Subject to state and local laws. © 1998, Promus Hotels, Inc. What a difference a stay makes.℠ 1-800-EMBASSY

The Mail



Morrison: laws not suited to modern science

'Helping death come'

I am writing this with tears streaming down my face and a picture of my father propped up against my computer. Your cover story "The final hours" (March 9) hit too close to home. My father, age 59, died four months ago after suffering for 10 long months with the deadliest brain tumor, glioblastoma multiforme. He had two operations, radiation therapy, two sessions of chemotherapy, countless different drugs and several stays in hospital. Before he lost his ability to walk, talk or swallow, he would cry at times and beg to die. I am disgusted with the quote referring to the unfortunate patient Paul Mills that "it was only due to the great talents of the surgeons that he survived." *Talents? Survived?* I wonder: when cancer is eating away their bodies, will it be gratitude they feel for the "talented" doctors who allow them to "live" another two, three or six months? What good is time for a suffering patient? It is only for the families who are too selfish to let them go, or for the doctors who like to feel powerful. Helping death to come faster and less painfully for a terminally ill patient is not murder, it's probably the kindest, least selfish act a person can do. I am grateful that I had my dad for 25 years, but when he died, that's when I thanked God. If a nurse had slipped a needle into his arm, I would have looked the other way.

Colleen Woodward,
Vancouver

I was born in 1920, and death, while not an obsession, has become a presence in my life. God willing, I will never need nor want euthanasia, but I would like that service to be available without jeopardy of any kind to anyone. We, in our society, are without mercy or justice if we continue to subject our medical professionals to the necessity (real or perceived) of deciding whether or not to euthanize a fellow human. That is our responsibility and we must face up to it. Surely our lawmakers can accommodate us by devising a system that will ensure that decisions will be made in a timely manner in the interest, first, of the patient, then the family, then the particular faith involved and, last, that of the state. It is unconscionable to allow the present situation to continue.

Malcolm M. McLean
Metcalfe, Ont.

As a nurse, I ask: who knows if Paul Mills did not implore Dr. Nancy Morrison's help, even in the way he looked at her? who knows the real doctor-patient relationship within hospital walls, a day-to-day relationship where patients' worries, confidences and pains are being shared among caretakers who eventually become friends? I accept that the charge against Morrison has been dropped. On the other hand, I presume she will feel remorseful for the rest of her life for her act of clemency. May God bless her.

Jeannita Theriault,
Moncton, N.B.

Nancy Morrison is not a criminal, she is an angel of mercy. It is long past time for our death-denying society to collectively grow up. To die with dignity should be a matter of personal choice for any adult.

Jim Roesche,
Ottawa

Numerous cases in the courts just illustrate that the laws of the country are not suited to dealing with the situation that modern science now places them in. The present situation leaves judges and juries struggling to deal with issues that the law has not empowered them to handle effectively, while the parliamentarians, who are entrusted with this task, endlessly bicker along political lines over far less basic life and death issues.

Nigel Wootton,
Calgary

Missing care

What is most apparent in the final moments of Paul Mills's life is that his caretakers had reached *their* level of coping with Mills's suffering. Failure to confirm the positioning of the IV catheter, considering what the story referred to as the "extraordinary amounts of narcotics" administered to Mills, highlights the medical mismanagement of this case. The decision of the peer review committee not to report the circumstances of Mills's case to the college of physicians, the provincial coroner's office or the police is highly unethical and unacceptable. Given a competent and compassionate palliative care physician, one adept at alleviating torturous pain, Mills's exit from this life could have been dignified.

Jean McCalmont Faught,
Waterdown, Ont.

In the article "Offering a helping hand to those who long to die," Wesley J. Smith, the Oakland, Calif., lawyer campaigning against euthanasia, says "Once you say killing is permissible, the categories keep expanding." But I believe we, as compassionate, caring humans, can differentiate between mercy killing and killing just because somebody has a disability. When you are diagnosed as terminal, that means you are going to die. We are not morons. We just cannot bear to watch a vital person deteriorate to the point my husband did when he died, at 39, of bone cancer, with his pride totally bashed and his sense of self-worth destroyed, and suffering never-ending pain.

Lori Disher,
Calgary

The article "Everyone knows it happens" states erroneously that results I provided *Maclean's* of a survey on physician-assisted suicide, conducted by Dr. Maja Verhoef and me, "will appear in an upcoming issue of the *Canadian Medical Association Journal*." In fact, the results are but a small part of an article that will shortly be *submitted* to the *Journal*. I also advised *Maclean's* that it could release these data since we had previously reported them in abstract form to the scientific community, unlike other data in our soon-to-be submitted article.

Dr. T.D. Kinsella,
Director, Office of Medical Bioethics,
University of Calgary

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
should be addressed to
***Maclean's* Magazine Letters**
777 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5W 1A7
Fax (416) 596-7730
E-mail **letters@macleans.ca**
Maclean's welcomes readers' views but letters may be edited for space and clarity. Please supply **name, address and daytime telephone number.**
Submissions may appear in *Maclean's* electronic sites.





It's how Canadians communicate

WLL satellites cellular MCS ESMR PCS mobile radio LMCS paging data 3G ONE

Canadian WIRELESS 1998

CANTEL AT&T clearNET Lucent Technologies ERICSSON MICROCELL Mobility NORTEL MOTOROLA

ANNUAL CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW

Metro Toronto Convention Centre
(New South Building)
222 Bremner Boulevard
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

MAY 20-22, 1998

INFORMATION
Fax on demand: 416-361-6528
Phone: 613-233-4888
Fax: 613 233-2032
Internet: www.cwta.ca

cwta Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association

acts



The Easter Seal Society
La Société des Timbres de Pâques

PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES.



Please give generously.
1-800-590-SEAL

THE MAIL

A vote for the banks

We should be thrilled about the success of Canada's big banks, and the proposed merger between the Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Montreal ("Big and bigger," Cover, Feb 2). Here we have successful companies who employ thousands and donate millions to worthy causes. Instead of congratulating the banks, we whine about how much money they make and the chairmen's salaries. If you don't like what the banks are doing, don't use them. Go to a credit union instead. And if you don't like what the chairmen are making, what would you do about it? Have Ottawa legislate salary caps? Those guys just threw away $450 million of *our* dollars in the helicopter scam, and you would trust them?

Peter B. Hansen
Edmonton

Making a difference

The future looks brighter when you print an articulate letter such as the one from Susanne Brooks ("Canada needs a great celebration," The Road Ahead, Feb. 23) on the problem of lack of national pride. Eighteen months ago, School Voyageurs, an educational tour operator, decided to complement civic education in our school systems. In recognition of the 50th anniversary of Canadian citizenship on Jan. 1, 1997, we designed tours to Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec City and Sudbury, Ont., that emphasized the information asked on the citizenship test. Is Susanne right? Does civic education for our young people make a difference? One of our travellers, an English-speaking student from southwestern Ontario, said it best when he wrote to us: "In Quebec City your stories of old buildings and myths/legends helped us understand what it really meant to be a French-Canadian." Do not despair, Susanne. We can make a difference.

Prisca Campbell,
Director of marketing,
School Voyageurs (Canada) Ltd.
Toronto

A young reader

I am 12 years old and I don't read your magazine very often, but my parents do. Recently, I was thumbing through it and I found an article about the Canadian band Our Lady Peace ("Heating up the arenas," People, Feb. 9). I love their music and I think it's great that they are being recognized by the media. From now on, I'll take a closer look at your magazine and maybe even find something else that interests me.

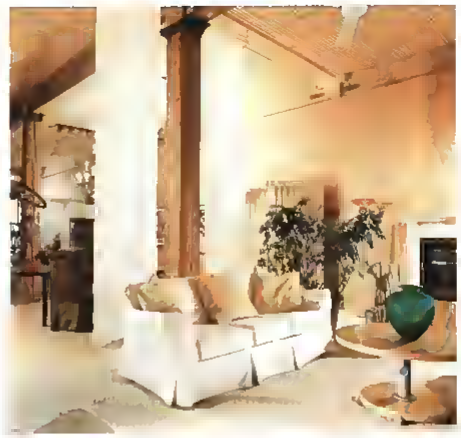
Danica Smith
Kanata, Ont.

PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

M.A.P. SERVICES (905) 565-9229

PREMIER CONDOMINIUMS

The Candy Factory Lofts



The Candy Factory offers genuine Queen Street West lofts to today's downtown dweller. This 90-year old building, formerly the Ce De Candy Factory, is rapidly evolving into one of the city's most fashionable new addresses.

There are 57 floorplans and each is a unique design, from lofts and two-story penthouses to single and split-level units.

The interior architecture is distinguished by the character of its woodwork, with all the original wood columns, wood beams and wood slat ceilings ranging from 9½ to 12½ feet high. Each loft boasts new solid plank hardwood floors and large windows for natural sunlight in abundance. Kitchens feature oversized islands and five major appliances.

Other amenities include 24-hour concierge, landscaped rooftop terrace, skylit gymnasium, and a party lounge. The streetcar stops at the door and only a few steps away is Trinity Bellwoods Park, and the shops and restaurants of Queen St. West. There is immediate access to both the Gardiner and QEW and the downtown core.

Now under construction, The Candy Factory is being built by the Metrontario Group. Priced from $179,900 to over $600,000, an average of $183 per square foot, the lofts offer an outstanding value.

Model Suites and Sales Office are at 993 Queen St. West, just west of Bathurst. Telephone (416) 504-7416. Open daily from noon to 6:00 p.m.

Our jungles need more forests.



Help plant our urban forests. Get your community or group involved today.

Trees do their part. Let's do ours.

Tree Canada Foundation

Visit our web site: www.treecanada.ca

SHARING THE DREAM

THANKS TEAM!

LISTED HERE ARE THE MEMBERS OF ONE OF CANADA'S MOST UNIQUE TEAMS - THEY ARE THE FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF OVER 20,000 ATHLETES WHO ARE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AND MAKE UP CANADIAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS. THESE PEOPLE GENEROUSLY DONATED AUCTION ITEMS TO THE 15TH ANNUAL SPORTS CELEBRITIES FESTIVAL AND ASSISTED IN RAISING NET FUNDS OF OVER $879,000 FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS ACROSS CANADA. IF YOU ARE ON THE LIST, YOU'RE A PART OF AN OUTSTANDING GROUP! IF YOU ARE NOT ON THE LIST, CALL US NOW AT (416) 487-2877 AND JOIN IN THE FUN AT THE 1998 SPORTS CELEBRITIES FESTIVAL BREAKFAST AND GALA DINNER/AUCTION WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE WESTIN HARBOUR CASTLE ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1998.

Minaz Abji Glenn Adamo, Kim All Ron Atkins John Barnett, Jean Noel Basque Paul Beeston Chris Bielski Patrick Birmingham Bryen Black Shannon Bowden, Rick Brace David Brandstetter British Columbia Lions Buffalo Sabres Christopher Calisi Brian Cellahan Phyllis Cerangelo Sandy Cavanaugh John Challinor Andrew Clarke Roger Clemens Michael "Pinball" Clemons Brian Conenher Peter Cosentino Brian Cowie Mary Crothers John DeGroot Ken Dorrett Mark DiMillo Jane Doyle Ron Ellis Geoff Fardy Mitchell Foreman, Wayne Fraser Dave Gardner Alison George Ron Gordon Trevor Graham Doug Grand Paul Greenwood Dino Grele David Hagen Dave Haggith Bill Harlow Paul Henderson Martin Herzog, Mark Hilson Keith Hunt Karan Kelly Ross Kettle Bob Lawlor Cathie Leak Steve LeMesurier Jim Murray, Melody Lillicrap Laurine MacNeil Paul Markle, Paul Masotti Kelly Masse Libby McCready, Neil McDermott Elizabeth and Don McGuiness McClelland and Stewart Darla McKean Bev Mills Robert Moffatt Alan Moss Mark Napier, Garry Newman Norm Webb Dwight Nick Glenn Norman Bob Patterson, Julie Petraschuk Bill Pringle, Nancy Read Cindy Ross Susan Seganski Al Salomon Eva Sbert Samuel Schwartz Brian Segal, Rod Seiling Carole Sharpe Timothy Shaw Michael Shea, Darryl Sittler Jeffrey Stulm Team Canada 1972 Lilian Tepera, Jim Thompson Ira Treves Patrick Underhill Craig Underwood John Upper Mike Vanderjagt Stan Vanwoerkens Loretto Vella Jack Wallis Bernard Weatherhead David Webb Terry Witzel Michael Wolfe Tom Wright Jane Wynne Patti Lou Andrews Jake Arnott Stuart Ballantyne Bruce Barker Harold Barkley Kevin Birch Wally Boshyk, Eric Braeden, Peter Bragg Doug Brown David Chan Don Cherry Phil Collins John Deighen Roger Desjardins Paul Eastwood Ron Ellis Ron Fellows Lan Fiejtch David Gamett, Cito Gaston Jim Geary Scott Goodyear Wayne Gretzky Curt Hamett Bret "Hitman" Hart Sandy and Lisa Hawley Kathleen Heddle Rob Hindley Brenda Hogg Jerry Howarth Bobby Hull Dennis Hull Medleen Kalkauskas Red Kelly Dave Keon Chad Kilger Bob Kostiuk Guy Lafleur Robert Lendry Robi Leeder Paul Lewicki Ted Lindsay Marnie McBean Bob McElroy Stan Mikita Dan Miller Greg Moore Jim Murray Liliana Novakovich Zeke O'Connor Ray Paquet Richard Platt Moe Poole Scott Pruett Rene Robert Diane Rosenthal Joseph Rosenthal Jeff Ross Gabriella Sabatini Arantxa Sanchez Vicario Frank Selke Elvis Stojko Dean Storey, Mark Tewksbury Shania Twain Mike Van Dyke Joey Vendelle Doug Wallington Ken Weggett Michelle Wright 20-VIC Management Inc 8-Wing CFB Trenton adidas (America) Ltd Atlanta Falcons Baseball Hall of Fame Crayola Ltd Bowlerama Ltd Calgary Stampeders Canadian Forces School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering CFB Borden Chicago Blackhawks Citizen D-Day the Clown Denver Broncos Detroit Red Wings Detroit Lions Edmonton Oilers Enlis Communications Executive Style Fantasy Fall Firefly Books Florida Panthers Hollander York Gallery, IBM Jim Russell Racing School The New Golf Fame Tools Lynx Golf Canada Mackenzie Financial Miami Dolphins Milwaukee Brewers New York Islanders NHLPA Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy Okidata Onex Corporation Ottawa Senators Phoenix Coyotes Rothmans Ltd. Sally Woods Spalding Canada Steve Bauer, The Shaw Festival The Brampton Flying Club The Toronto Sun Kevin Kaye Jack Dominico Emily Curz Adam F Jones Jenny Rowson David Grand Deborah Knight Bernard Brisset, Rizza Vadamo Judy McGonigle Pat Gillick, Paul Desaulniers Kristin Reaugh, Johanne Somers Marlene Hughes Jim VanderBerg Felicia Shu, Margo Webb, Yella Cleversey Joel Giusto, Moshe Sergeiva Sandy Turney Robin Recine Nancy Ceneviva, Gord Stellick Mike Fraser, Rita Ferran Rhonda Massieh Nicki Stewart Dave Taylor Janet Gates Karen Eull Bill Beasley Brian Thompson Grace Battiston Sandra Shallie Mark Downing Richard Hayhoe Michael Levy Corrine Van De Grootevheen Laura Mullin Paul Martineau Steven Reiken Brad Schroeder Dora Klein, John Baird Niko Albanis Robert Cass Carol Meglster Michael Wekil Julie Bettiol John Palumbo, Jennifer Scott Sue Clark Brian Kilroy Rocco Mazzeiemo Kristen Burke, Melanie Peppard Sarah Hill Dorothy Moore Muhammed Huq Camille McFarlene Amie Lappin Pat Boutett Kim Thung Brian Beaulieu Jim Henry Adrienne Drennan Bernie Roenz Eric King Tom Bilove, Richard Ou, David McClean Shannon Emily Davidson Jerry Priddle Bob Nicholson George "Iceman" Gervin, Leslie Levine, Bernard Dupuy Ron Bresler, Michael Hunter Gord Hunter William R C Treshem Jackie Hawkins Stephenie Johnston Nicole Shakespeare Mark Nulford Robert Retzlaff Natalie Bennett, R B Schultz Barry Wilson Lorna Egan Bernie Letofsky Ricky Rica Marty Vellend Donna Percival Cathy Neely Tom Quinn Brian Miller Anne Sauve

WE CAN ALL BE HEROES

WE CAN ALL BE HEROES

FOR THE BENEFIT OF CANADIAN SPECIAL OLYMPICS

THE MAIL

Chrétien's idle boast

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's boasting over having a balanced budget would be much more bearable and creditable if one could forget his actions while leader of the official Opposition ("Martin's balancing act," Canada/Special Report, March 9). During that period, the growing debt and deficit were recognized as serious problems, but every attempt by the Conservative government to address the problem was stridently opposed by Chrétien and the Liberal party. Their efforts, aided and abetted by the NDP and the media, made it impossible to make the required reductions. We all acknowledge now that action should have been taken then, but the polls showed that more political gain could be made by the Liberals in opposing any deficit reduction. Chretien being a follower, not a leader, took the blatant partisan path.

Tom Hum
Parham, Ont.

Voice of the Prairies

Thanks for the well-deserved tribute to the late W. O. Mitchell ("Prairie godfather," Obituary, March 9). The Saskatchewan Prairie never lets go its hold on those of us who lived there, however far away we may go, and a dip into Mitchell's works is a tonic every time.

Gwen Vokes,
Surrey, England

Keys to health crisis

I am writing in response to your interview with Allan Rock, federal minister of health ("Pushing home care," Health, March 9). When it comes to health care, the primary concern of government is often the cost. The key to solving the health-care crisis, however, isn't finding cheaper ways or stronger drugs, but to keep people healthy. Canadians can blame the government, the

The Road Ahead

History and healing

The phrase "distinct society" appears to be misunderstood or maliciously misinterpreted by a large segment of the Canadian people, the English Canada that seems to consider itself the only true Canadian society. Other segments—namely Quebecers and aboriginals—know what it means to be part of a different, or distinct society, the frustration of not being recognized and respected as a different people. They know the anguish of being harassed, bullied and driven to consider radical measures to free themselves from a destructive association. There are still many French Quebecers who want to remain in Canada. But they are struggling to obtain the accommodations denied to their society.

During my four years of education in a one-room Quebec schoolhouse in the 1920s, I learned that three different societies, each with well-established roots, were cohabiting this beautiful country. I learned that when the French explorers came to this land in the early 1600s, they found it occupied by a people very different from the Europeans—a distinct society. During the following century, France sent a large number of explorers, traders and settlers and founded a second distinct society alongside the aboriginals.

After taking possession of Quebec in 1763, the British colonial government—wisely or unwisely—granted the French the rights to remain on the land and continue the pursuit of their destiny in the French language and French culture. They gave the French the rights to practise the Catholic religion and to retain the French civil code of law. In 1774, the British enshrined in the Quebec Act the rights and powers it had accorded to the Quebec society—recognizing the distinctness of Quebec.

Immigrants were to become subject to the rights and laws of the Quebec society. But British immigrants found it difficult to accept being members of a conquered society and to be loyal to its administration. And there was born the irreconcilable confrontation between the Quebec French and the British immigrants to the province. In 1791, Quebec was divided into two provinces, Lower Canada (Quebec) for the Quebec society and Upper Canada (Ontario) for the British society. The English-speaking people in Lower Canada remained, by law, subject to the Quebec administration.

It is my hope that, as more people learn the unprejudiced version of the history of Canada from the works of contemporary historians, Canadians will eventually heal themselves. I predict that Canadians will eventually apologize for what they have done to the aboriginals and, probably, recognize the wrongs they have done to the French.

What Canada needs is for each of its three societies to muster the necessary intellect to understand and recognize the wrongs that have been done. They need to gather the necessary will for a healing reconciliation process. If the dominant society could only appreciate the potential for equivalent greatness in the people of the other societies, and if it could be prepared to make accommodations for their distinct needs rather than dictate to them, Canada would be saved.

Richard O. Archambault,
Bridgewater, N.S.

The Road Ahead invites readers to advance specific solutions to Canada's political, social and economic problems. Unpublished submissions may run condensed as regular letters or appear on an electronic bulletin board.

Maclean's
CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Editor-in-Chief Robert Lewis

Managing Editor Geoffrey Stevens

Board of Editors:
Bob Levin *(Executive Editor)*, Nick Burnett *(Art Director)*, Michael Bennett *(Editorial Director, New Ventures)*, Ann Dowsett Johnston, Ross Laver, Robert Marshall *(Assistant Managing Editors)*, Patricia Hluchy, Peeter Kapvillem *(Senior Editors)*, Bruce Wallace *(Ottawa Editor)*, Andrew Phillips *(Washington Editor)*, Peter Bregg *(Photo Editor)*, Basil Guinane *(Director, Information Services and New Media)*, Giselle Sabatin *(Associate Art Director)*

Senior Contributing Editor Peter C. Newman

National Affairs Columnist. Anthony Wilson-Smith
General Editor Carl Mollins
Section Editors. James Deacon *(Sports)*, Mark Nichols *(Science and Technology)*, Robert Sheppard *(Education)*, Bertan Woodward *(World)*
Manager of Financial Services. Leslie Saunders
Senior Writers. Joe Chidley, Patricia Chisholm, Rae Corelli, Sharon Doyle Driedger, Tim Fennell, D'Arcy Jenish, Brian D. Johnson, Nomi Morris, Jane O'Hara, Diane Turbide, Barbara Wickens
Associate Editors. Brian Bethune, John Nicol, Stephanie Nolen, John Schofield
Assistant Editors. Tanya Davies *(Opening Notes People)*, Danylo Hawaleshka, Robert Scott *(New Media)*
Bureaus. *Ottawa:* Bruce Wallace *(Chief)*, John DeMont, Luke Fisher, John Geddes. *Halifax:* Brian Bergman. *Montreal:* Brenda Branswell. *Toronto:* Kimberley Noble *(National Business Correspondent)*. *Calgary:* Mary Nemeth. *Vancouver:* Chris Wood *(Chief)*, Jennifer Hunter *(Western Business Correspondent)*. *Washington:* Andrew Phillips. *Europe:* Barry Came *(London)*, Malcolm Gray *(Moscow)*
Editorial Administrator Sean McCluskey
Research. Ruth Abramson, Julie Cazzin, Jane Doucet, Catherine Roberts *(Researcher-Reporters)*
Library. Mary Jane Culbert, George Serhijczuk *(Library Technicians)*, Robin Seitz *(Library Clerk)*
Copy. Virginia Taylor *(Chief Copy Editor)*
Photo Department. Kristine Ryall *(Associate Photo Editor)*, Phil Snel *(Assistant Photo Editor/Photographer)*
Art Department. John Edney *(Assistant Art Director)*, Elizabeth Greenshields *(Senior Designer)*, Eric Legge *(Designer)*
Design Coordinator Buffy Barrett
Assistant to the Editor Chris Johnston
Editorial Assistant. Barbara Semeniuk

Correspondents.
Charlottetown Barbara MacAndrew. *Quebec City* Mark Cardwell. *Whitehorse* Jim Butler. *Alberton* Kirk Trey. *Bangkok* Dominic Faulder. *Beijing* Paul Mooney. *Berlin* Regine Wosnitza. *Cairo* Emad Mekay. *Cape Town* Kate Dunn, Chris Erasmus. *Dublin* Michael Keane. *Hong Kong* David Baird. *Jerusalem* Eric Silver. *Lima* Lucien Chauvin. *Los Angeles* Anne Gregor. *Mexico City* Pia Jordan. *Nairobi* Jennifer Glasse. *New Delhi* Ajay Bose. *New York* Vince Beiser. *Nicosia* Michael Theodoulou. *Paris* Julian Nundy. *Rome* Phillip Willan. *Seoul* Jason Neely. *Tokyo* Suvendrini Kakuchi. *Vienna* Sue Masterman. *Warsaw* Bogdan Turek

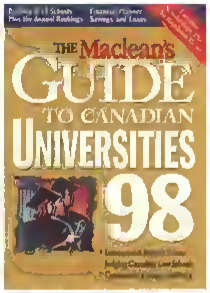
Contributing Editors. Barbara Amiel, Ruth Atherley, John Bemrose, Stevie Cameron, Warren Cavagnis, Mary Dwyer, Mary Janigan, Nicholas Jennings, William Lowther, Deirdre McMurdy

New Ventures: Michael Benedict *(Editorial Director)*

Publisher Brian Segal

Maclean's
WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

Editorial Update



The Maclean's Guide to Canadian Universities 1998

The definitive guide to Canada's universities features comprehensive, current profiles of each school, detailing popular courses, professors, services and hangouts, plus information on residence facilities and co-op opportunities. In addition to Maclean's exclusive university rankings, there is valuable advice for international students and a complete directory to all Canadian community colleges. For those considering a legal career, a 23-page survey of the country's common law schools is included.

This year, in recognition of skyrocketing student debt, the Maclean's editorial team presents a new 40-plus page report on entrance scholarships, as well as savings and loans programs for students.

With the most comprehensive up-to-date information, *The Maclean's Guide to Canadian Universities 1998* is required reading for all students, parents and educators.

Newsstand Notes



Maclean's TV

Hosted by Pamela Wallin, this weekly half-hour show provides a vivid look at the people and news from the pages of Maclean's. Maclean's TV is television worth watching. Watch Maclean's TV on CBC Newsworld every Sunday at 4:30 p.m. ET/1:30 p.m. PT and earlier at 7:30 a.m. ET/4:30 a.m. PT.

Florida Sweepstakes Winner



Congratulations to Mr. Bob Havlik, of Mississauga, Ontario. As the grand prize winner of Maclean's Florida Sweepstakes contest, he receives a trip for a family of four to Ft. Myers, Florida, including four days/three nights hotel accommodation at the Sanibel Inn provided by South Seas Resorts and a seven-day car rental certificate from Alamo.

Watch for the next Florida Sweepstakes contest this fall in the pages of Maclean's — What Matters to Canadians.

Subscriber Services

- To subscribe or renew your subscription
- To report an address change
- To check your account status and expiry date
- To stop receiving renewal notices by joining the Convenient Subscription Plan
- To report a delivery problem
- To temporarily suspend delivery or re-direct your copies while traveling

Mail Preference: Occasionally we make our subscriber list available to reputable companies and organizations whose products or services may be of interest to you. If you do not want your name to be made available, please call or write us.

Scent Strips: Occasionally Maclean's will include advertisers' scent strips in its issues. If you prefer to receive scent-free issues please call or write us.

Subscriber Services
1-888-Maclean's (1-888-622-5327)
or 416-596-5523

Changes of address – 24 hours
Other Inquiries – 9 am - 7 pm ET
E-mail : service@macleans.ca
Mail to: Maclean's Subscriber Services, 777 Bay St. 8th floor, Toronto, Ont. M5W 1A7

Maclean's In-Class Program
1-800-668-1551
(416-596-5514)

Maclean's on CD ROM
Call Micromedia at
1-800-387-2689

Maclean's
CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Publisher BRIAN SEGAL

Vice President, Advertising Sales Charles A. Hedgkinson
General Manager, Sales (Quebec) Jean-Francois Dauville
Account Managers Montreal Maryse Bayard
Dick Donohue (Ottawa) Diane Opala (Toronto) Jack S. Fertile
Kelly Millar, Michael Travers (Sr. Acct. Mgr.)
L. Jane Avery (New York) Tom Fleming, Colin Jacobs
George Kennedy, Blair Graham, Nancy Ng, Deborah Trepanier
Vancouver: Bill Metz (Sales Mgr.)
Sales Co-ordinators Céline Gauthier, Lina Ierullo
Meredith MacDonald, Kathryn Murphy, Shelley Tait

ADVERTISING SALES INFORMATION
(416) 596-5311

Vice-President, Business Development Carmen Chee Wah
Vice President, Marketing Nicola Clayton
Director of Research Services Sharon A. Murray
Director of Creative Services Paul H. Jansky

Advertising Production Manager James Moran
Production Co-ordinators Irene Shaw, Jewel Park

Director of Consumer Marketing Tracey McKinley
Circulation Manager Victoria Newland
Manager, In Class Program Monica Kucharski
Assistant Manager, Customer Service Mavis Julius

Maclean's is published by
Maclean Hunter Publishing Limited

President and Chief Executive Officer John H. Tory
Executive Vice-President Terry L. Malden
Executive Vice-President Brian Segal
Vice-President, Circulation Michael J. Fox

MACLEAN'S established 1905. Is published weekly except for one double-issue at year-end by Maclean Hunter Publishing Limited, Maclean Hunter Building, 777 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5W 1A7. Montreal office: 1001 de Maisonneuve ouest, Montreal, Que. H3A 3E1. Vancouver office: Ste. 900, 1130 West Pender St., Vancouver, B.C. V6E 4A4. Contents Copyright© 1998 by Maclean Hunter Publishing Limited; may not be reprinted without permission. Maclean's ISSN 0024-9262. Full subscription prices for 52 issues including shipping, handling and taxes: Canada $51.66 except in Quebec; New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia $55.53. U.S.A. $68.00 surface or $168.00 first class; all other countries $199.00 airmail. Microfiche and 35 mm microfilm: Micromedia, 20 Victoria St., Toronto, Ont. M5C 2N8. Indexed in Canadian Periodical Index, Canadian Business Period cals Index, the Magazine Index, the Canadian Magazine Index and Indexib online in the Canadian Business & Current Affairs Database. Full text reference on-line on Globe Information Services, Infomart Online and NEXIS.

Printed in Canada by
Quebecor Printing Inc.

THE MAIL

doctors, and the drug and food industries, but at the end of the day our health is our responsibility. We need to educate ourselves. For most people, good health is incredibly easy to achieve. It means focusing on whole, organic, fresh foods, clean water and air, exercise and spiritual well-being, and avoiding things like saturated fat, excess protein, sugar and chemicals. Nobody, including the government and pharmaceutical and food industries, is going to care about your health as much as you.

Lisa Rogers,
Toronto

Allan Rock should read the cover story, which is ostensibly about euthanasia, but if he looked deeper he could see a reflection of Canada's health-care excesses. Paul Mills, a man diagnosed with terminal cancer, had 10 surgeries in his final, desperate six months. Likewise, my uncle in Vancouver was fighting terminal cancer and continued to be encouraged by physicians and specialists to seek further tests and treatments. Unfortunately, he spent his last precious time seeking hope from these practitioners, to the extent that they were still scheduling scans up to the day of his death.

Christine Fibiger,
Indianapolis

Curling muscles

I guess Robert Lawrence has never tried to curl, judging by his letter that compares curling to lawn bowling ("Setting the bar higher," The Mail, March 9). If he does not believe the game is physically challenging, he should try sweeping a couple of ends, then he would understand how many muscles you really use. It is also obvious he does not understand the rules or the strategy behind the game. Curling has become one of the most-watched sports in Canada.

Sherry Badger,
Penticton, B.C.

Australian republic

"Royal challenge" (World, Feb. 23) looked for parallels between Australia and Canada. Both countries have been constitutionally preoccupied of late—Australia with the idea of a republic and Canada with Quebec. The lesson to learn from Canada is that political leaders can ill afford to allow such preoccupations to distract them from issues that the majority considers to be of far greater importance. The Canadian Tories paid dearly for Brian Mulroney's obsession with constitutional change. Likewise in Australia, few people would place constitutional change ahead of the basics of jobs, incomes and health care. The Australian government sensibly used the constitutional convention in February to take some of the steam out of the republic issue and set it aside for up to 18 months—well after the next federal election is due. I'll wager that many Canadians, if offered an 18-month holiday from constitutional wrangling, would say "amen" to that.

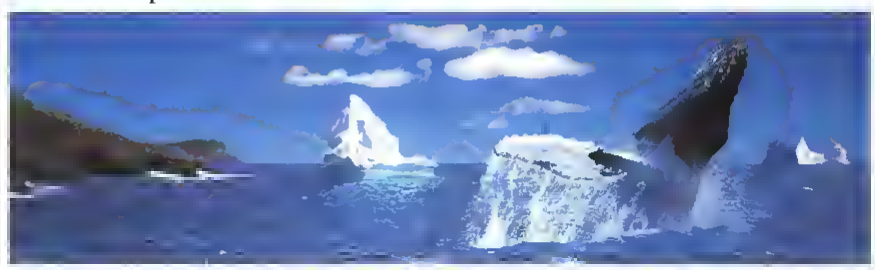
John Perrin,
Canberra

Foth on the Dionnes

How dare you, Allan Fotheringham? Your reference to the Dionne quints as doomed "monkeys in a zoo," "freaks" and "tragic women who will soon be dead" is a terrible act of insensitivity on your part ("Why has Mike Harris stiffed the quints?" March 9). There is no doubt that Ontario Premier Mike Harris is unfortunate enough to have to answer the old question "where did the money go?" but we cannot make him the bad guy here. It is quite inconceivable that anyone would not realize that the money was spent long ago by a greedy government. How does he compensate for what his predecessors have done?

S. L. Pleau
Beamsville, Ont.

The humpback of Notre Dame.



The migratory path of the humpback whale passes through the rich waters of Notre Dame Bay, Newfoundland.

Ten-thousand-year-old icebergs drift south. Humpbacks migrate to the north. This is the place where their paths cross. Two of nature's leviathans. Two wonders of the world. They say you can't see the icebergs for whales. Imagine that.

To get up close to the whales and icebergs, get our 240-page Travel Guide to the Far East of the Western World. For your free guide or to make reservations for your stay, call Kelly at

1 800 563 NFLD

E-mail: info@tourism.gov.nf.ca Internet: http://public.gov.nf.ca/tourism

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

ADVERTISEMENT



A story of 94 gloves, 126 tires and

When told he would [illegible] walk, he swore he would never be still. And for 2 years, 2 months and 2 days at an arm numbing 9,000 wheel turns a day, he pushed himself around the world. Travelling over 40,000 kilometers through over 30 countries, he raised over 20 million dollars in donations for spinal cord research and rehabilitation. And today, Canadian Rick Hansen is still a man in motion and the constant proof that courage knows no handicap.

1 indomitable spirit.

To get where we're going in life, we all need a dream. And at State Farm, we can help you turn those dreams into plans, and those plans into futures. State Farm Understands Life.

STATE FARM INSURANCE

SALUTES LIFE HEROES

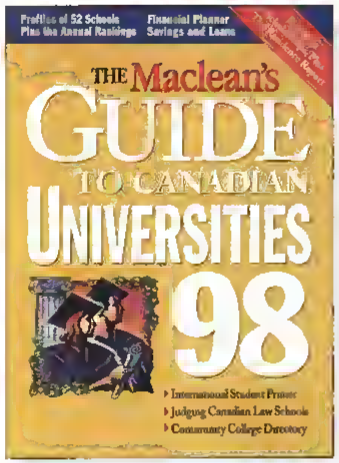
Visit Rick Hansen's Man In Moti[illegible]te, www.rickhansen.ubc.ca

State Farm[illegible]ife Insurance Company • Canadian [illegible]ice: Scarborough, Ontario

1998 EDITION
ON SALE NOW!

Required Reading

for planning a university education



Maclean's magazine brings you the definitive guide to Canadian universities. In addition to the university rankings from Maclean's best-selling annual university issue, the book includes:

- ✓ Comprehensive, current profiles of 52 universities
- ✓ A complete directory to all Canadian community colleges
- ✓ The most popular majors, courses, professors, services and hangouts
- ✓ A wealth of information on residence facilities, plus co-op and internship opportunities
- ✓ Valuable advice for international students
- ✓ A 23-page survey of the country's common-law schools

PLUS: A new 46-page directory to entrance scholarships and a financial planner for parents and students.

Maclean's
WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

Backstage



Anthony Wilson-Smith

The need for privacy in public life

About a month after the 1993 federal election, Jean Charest and Prime Minister Jean Chrétien bumped into each other in a corridor of the House of Commons. Despite their shared Quebec roots and time in Parliament, the two men had never yet met privately. They said hello, and then the Prime Minister told Charest: "Drop by and see me some time." They subsequently met in Chretien's office on Parliament Hill, and spent more than an hour chatting about such mutual experiences as the pain of losing a leadership race. The Prime Minister, Charest later told an acquaintance, "impressed me more than I had expected. There is a depth I hadn't sensed before in public exchanges."

The warming up period lasted until the night of the Oct. 30, 1995, referendum, when Chrétien infuriated the Progressive Conservative leader by interrupting his nationally televised speech with one of his own. But one lesson from that exchange still rings true: perhaps more than ever, there is an important place for private actions in public life. Consider several recent examples—with both positive and negative results. For one, political leaders in Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador have been sniping at each other from a distance for decades over the outcome of the 1969 Churchill Falls hydroelectric agreement. Formally scheduled discussions aimed at resolving the dispute—and Newfoundland's lament that it takes only a tiny fraction of electricity sales—always seemed doomed from the outset by angry public rhetoric on both sides. Then, in January, 1997, Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard and Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin ended up together on the Team Canada economic mission to Asia. In quiet, informal discussions, as Tobin recounted last week, the two men began discussing alternative solutions. The result was an agreement on the development of the Lower Churchill River that will now be subject to public hearings.

Similarly, almost from the day that British Columbia Premier Glen Clark and his New Democratic Party were elected in 1996, they and key members of the province's business community have been at war over economic policy. That atmosphere was discouraging potential investors and poisoning co-operative efforts between the two sides. Finally, Clark and major business figures, led by entrepreneur Jimmy Pattison, began a series of closed-door meetings aimed at clearing the air. Since then, Clark has shuffled his cabinet and begun considering several concessions on fiscal issues, resulting in at least a temporary truce.

Meanwhile, witness the unseemly spectacle that emerged in Charest's dilemma over whether to remain in Ottawa or pursue the leadership of the Quebec Liberal party. It demonstrates that there are often times when private words matter much *more* than public claims. By last week, even as Charest continued agonizing, it was apparent that the credibility of almost everyone involved was damaged, ranging from the Tory caucus in Ottawa to Quebec federalists to Charest himself—even though he had done nothing wrong.

The reason is that because of the pressures and existing climate in politics today, almost all participants in the drama were obliged to lie or fudge when it came to expressing their real feelings. Many senior Tories are privately sympathetic to the notion that Charest could serve Canadians best as leader of the Quebec Liberals. At the same time, some, despite their affection for Charest, saw this as a chance to rejuvenate the party, especially in the West, if Alberta Premier Ralph Klein could be persuaded to come to Ottawa. Both issues are crucial to the future of the Tories and, perhaps, the country. As well, some would like Charest to go because they have their own eyes on his job. Despite all that, observing party solidarity means that real debate on the issue was stifled or held in private. In public, most Tories chanted the mantra that Charest must remain at all costs.

> Poor Jean Charest—all he wanted was a chance to discuss his decision first with his wife and children

For Quebec federalists, and provincial Liberals, there are different reasons to lie. They worried about appearing to want Charest too much—because, if he did not go, their second choice would appear too weak. Federal Liberals in Ottawa, who want to control federalist strategy themselves, retreated behind demonstrably false arguments—such as the claim that no one makes *that* much difference to a country's future. But without Rene Levesque, the Parti Quebecois might never have gained legitimacy, without Pierre Trudeau, the federalist No side might have lost the referendum in 1980, without Lucien Bouchard, the Yes side would have been dead in the water in 1995. Charest could hold that same power.

Then there is Charest himself, who was immediately presumed to be fibbing when he insisted that he did not want the Liberal job. He was pilloried further when he stopped discussing the issue in public. There was little patience for the fact that for almost a week, while on the road, he was unable to discuss the most important decision of his life privately with his wife and two children.

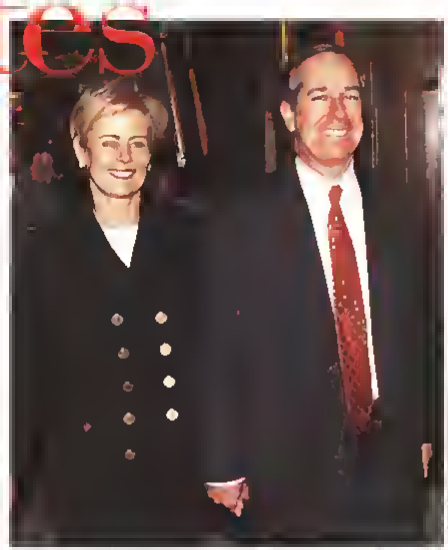
The result is a culture in which public figures are encouraged to lie—or presumed to be doing so even when they are not. One reason is the media, and their belief in the right to know at once, and at all costs. Another is the perception that a public figure has no right to private thoughts or actions. The result: even as respect for politicians hits its lowest ebb, the demands to monitor their personal life are greater than ever before.

Opening Notes

Edited by TANYA DAVIES

From the opposition to Power?

While everyone has been busy speculating on whether federal Progressive Conservative Leader Jean Charest will pursue the leadership of the provincial Quebec Liberal party, much less attention has been paid to the future plans of the departing incumbent, Daniel Johnson. When he announced his resignation on March 2 the 53-year-old Johnson said only that he was leaving public life to return to the private sector. In fact, some sources close to Johnson say that his specific destination is likely to be Montreal-based Power Corp. of Canada, a management holding company. The fluently bilingual Johnson, who has a master of business administration degree from Harvard University, worked at Power for Paul Desmarais from 1973 until entering politics in 1981. Now, insiders speculate, Johnson's likely return to the company will take him to Europe, where Power has extensive holdings. Since Johnson plans to keep his seat in the national assembly until the next provincial election, expected this fall, the appointment would likely not be announced until after that. A senior official at Power Corp. refused to comment about the subject last week. Even if it turns out that Johnson does not go to Power, he should have no worries about his future. "With his credentials," says a partner in a large Montreal law firm, "companies will be lining up to offer him directorships."



Johnson and his wife, Suzanne Marcil: no future worries



Clemens, pure and unfiltered

There are thousands of Web sites dedicated to athletes and actors. But the trend of the future is celebrities controlling a commercial site for their personal enrichment. With the help of Toronto-based Competitor Communications, Blue Jays pitcher (Rocket) Roger Clemens, 35, recently launched his own Web site. "Celebrities can't buy a television or radio station or magazine just to promote themselves," says K. K. Campbell, 37, president of Competitor Communications. "But the Web lets them take greater command of their name." Visitors to Clemens's site (*www.rocketroger.com*) can scan the Cy Young Award winner's pitching stats, read exclusive postgame interviews that describe pitch-by-pitch play, or—more to the point—buy Clemens merchandise. The initial offering proposed by Clemens: the first 21 balls he pitches—21 is his uniform number—at the season opener on April 1 will be signed and sold through his site. "The first one will probably be auctioned off and the others will be sold normally," says Campbell, whose company will keep an undisclosed percentage of the profits. "What a wonderful way to expand your contact with fans," says Clemens from the Jays training camp in Dunedin, Fla. "It's really me, it's not filtered through someone else."

They now read the articles

For years, many *Playboy* readers have insisted they buy the magazine for the articles. And with contributors like Norman Mailer and Gore Vidal, their claim has a thin veneer of credibility. Now, women can start saying the same thing about *Playgirl*. The 25-year-old monthly, dedicated to the naked male form, has been redesigned to put the emphasis on reading rather than ogling. The first revamped issue debuted last January, chock-full of fashion, health and food items. Even the cover has been overhauled: gone is the discreetly covered nude model, replaced by a head shot of a celebrity. "The original *Playgirl* was a lot more women-centric," says Charlene Keel Razack, 53, managing editor of the New York City-based magazine. "And we want to get back to that sophisticated image." She says hundreds of letters are pouring in from both established and new readers praising the changes. Women who purchase the magazine for the eye candy, however, will not be completely dissatisfied. The centrefold is still in place, although the photographs now tend to be more artistic. "Basically," enthuses Keel Razack, "*Playgirl* is about good, clean fun."



Luxury digs for the dearly departed

Selling condominiums in Vancouver's highly competitive market is a tough job, but one builder has hit on a demographic that is dying to get into his property. Vancouver developer Alvin Mitchell, 53, recently broke ground in North Vancouver to build the continent's largest mausoleum. With a spectacular view of Vancouver Harbour, the mausoleum offers a little piece of heaven. The nine-floor, 33-m-high building—which will hold 90,000 permanent tenants—is to include a floor for Catholics, complete with a nativity scene, and a simulated tropical island with palm trees and ukulele music for the city's large Fijian community. There are also plans for a veterans' floor, to be decorated with medals and weaponry. Cremations will be performed on a pyre on the rooftop overlooking the city.

A number of residents occupying the 1,300 homes in the neighborhood, worried about smoke and funeral procession traffic, tried unsuccessfully to halt construction. Mitchell counters that he attempted to build much-needed student housing for nearby Capilano College, but was turned down by the city. A mausoleum was his second choice. "I had this piece of land," he says. "And because of zoning bylaws, a mausoleum was one of the few things I was allowed to build." With more than 1,500 people interested and the opening slated for the fall of 1999, it would appear that halting Mitchell is a dead issue.

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. **The Street Lawyer,** *John Grisham (2)*
2. **Paradise,** *Toni Morrison (1)*
3. **The God of Small Things,** *Arundhati Roy (3)*
4. **Birthday Letters,** *Ted Hughes (4)*
5. **Girlfriend in a Coma,** *Douglas Coupland*
6. **Cloudsplitter,** *Russell Banks*
7. **Larry's Party,** *Carol Shields (6)*
8. **Cold Mountain,** *Charles Frazier (8)*
9. **The House Gun,** *Nadine Gordimer (9)*
10. **The Underpainter,** *Jane Urquhart (5)*

NONFICTION

1. **Simple Abundance,** *Sarah Ban Breathnach (1)*
2. **Talking to Heaven,** *James Van Praagh (3)*
3. **The Millionaire Next Door,** *Thomas Stanley and William Danko (2)*
4. **Angela's Ashes,** *Frank McCourt (4)*
5. **Death of a Princess: The Investigation,** *Thomas Sancton and Scott MacLeod (9)*
6. **The Man Who Listens to Horses,** *Monty Roberts (5)*
7. **1867: How the Fathers Made a Deal,** *Christopher Moore*
8. **Reflections of a Siamese Twin,** *John Ralston Saul (7)*
9. **The Warrior's Honour,** *Michael Ignatieff (8)*
10. **Into Thin Air,** *Jon Krakauer (6)*

() Position last week. Compiled by Brian Bethune

Visions of the Rock



Newfoundland's rugged beauty and friendly people are captured in *This Marvellous Terrible Place*, a reprinted collection of photographs and personal stories by photojournalists Yva Momatiuk and John Eastcott. Pictures of grizzled retired fishermen and colorful clapboard houses in old town St. John's help tell the tale of Newfoundlanders.



The ex-premier: Liberals on the skids?

Post-McKenna blues

For 10 years, New Brunswick premier Frank McKenna governed with an iron fist—and with consistently high levels of public support. But since McKenna resigned from politics last October, there are signs that the Liberal party is falling out of public favor. A recent Corporate Research Associates poll has the Liberals with 43 per cent of decided voters, compared with 30 per cent for the Conservatives and 20 per cent for the NDP. In any other province that would be a comfortable lead. But in New Brunswick—where as many as three-quarters of decided voters have sided with the Liberals in polls over the past decade—it is provoking speculation that the government may be on the skids. University of New Brunswick political science professor Don Desserud notes that the Liberals are under attack over issues such as the dismantling of school boards and health-care cuts—all of them McKenna initiatives. But without his leadership, says Desserud, the policies are starting to exact a political price. The party is also facing divisions caused by the May 2 Liberal leadership race, which is being contested by former cabinet ministers Camille Theriault, Bernard Richard and Greg Byrne. Finally, after so long in power, says Desserud, "you get the sense they are just tired, that they realize they've had their day in the sun." If true, it also means that McKenna—who is in private law practice in Moncton and collecting lucrative corporate directorships—may have jumped ship just in time.

Passages

DIED: Internationally renowned Haida artist **Bill Reid,** 78, after a 20-year battle with Parkinson's disease, in Vancouver. Reid is best known for his bronze *Spirit of Haida Gwaii* sculptures, which grace the Canadian Embassy in Washington and the new Vancouver International Airport terminal. Born in Victoria, Reid spent most of his life in British Columbia, where he was an outspoken advocate for native political and cultural rights.



DIED: Gabrielle Léger, 81, wife of former governor general **Jules Léger** after a long illness, in Ottawa. Appointed to his position in 1974, Jules Léger suffered a stroke six months later, prompting Gabrielle to assume many of her husband's duties. Jules Leger left his post in 1979, and died in 1980 from another stroke.

DIED: James McDougal, 57, former business partner of U.S. President **Bill Clinton** of cardiac arrest, in Fort Worth, Tex. McDougal helped spark the Whitewater investigation against Clinton and his wife **Hillary Rodham Clinton,** after being convicted in 1996 of operating a corrupt Arkansas savings and loans. For co-operating with investigators, McDougal received a reduced three year sentence.

DIED: Actor **Lloyd Bridges,** 85, in Los Angeles. Bridges enjoyed a five decade career in television and film, including the 1950s television series *Sea Hunt* and the film *High Noon* (1952).

AILING: Hockey legend **Maurice (Rocket) Richard,** 76, with inoperable abdominal cancer, in Montreal. The former Canadien, who led the team to eight Stanley Cup wins, was diagnosed in January.

SHORTLISTED: Canadian authors **Margaret Atwood,** 57, and **Guy Vanderhaeghe,** 46, for the 1998 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, in London. Administered by the Dublin City Library, the $192,000 award is the world's richest book prize.

RETIRING: Massachusetts Congressman **Joseph P. Kennedy II,** 45, from politics, in Boston. The eldest son of **Robert F. Kennedy** plans to run the nonprofit agency Citizens Energy, formerly headed by his late brother **Michael,** who died in a skiing accident on Dec. 31.

DOWN AND OUT



Watkins: once a gifted student, now she scours garbage bins

Six case studies explore why people live on Canada's streets

Survival. That is what life comes down to for the growing number of Canadians who live on the street in big cities. Their already limited resources are exhausted by the endless effort to find clothing, shelter and food. For those also grappling with an addiction, added to the list of daily requirements are drugs or alcohol. The struggle exacts a huge toll, leaving most psychologically and physically branded. For passersby, the homeless are often dismissed as 'losers,' or ignored. As Canada faces its worst homeless crisis since the Depression, *Maclean's* reporters filed case histories, exploring how six disparate and desperate people ended up on the street—and why they stay there. The contributors were Chris Wood in Vancouver, Dale Eisler in Calgary, Nomi Morris in Toronto, John Geddes in Ottawa, Brenda Branswell in Montreal and Brian Bergman in Halifax.

SQUEEGEEING IN TORONTO

At 16, Winnipeg-born Jen Watkins has become a garbage gourmet. When she lived on the street in Philadelphia, she and her friends would swarm the trash bins of a park where businessmen ate their lunches. "They would take one bite of a hotdog and throw it out," she laughs. "Once we put down a red-and-white checkered cloth and had a picnic." Now, the pickings are slimmer. "I've never found good garbage in Toronto," she says. Trolling through refuse is an important skill for a homeless minor. So is choosing a "squat"—a safe, abandoned building or hidden alcove to sleep in. And so is developing a friendly technique for squeegeeing—cleaning car windows at an intersection—which Jen says beats panhandling as a way to make enough money for one decent meal a day.

That, usually, is an egg and potato breakfast in mid-afternoon for $3.95. Vegetarian. A few years ago, Jen would never have imagined living this way. On the surface, her home life in Winnipeg had been stable: her parents were teachers. Jen was in a high-school gifted class, singing in both a youth choir and musical theatre group. But behind the facade was a father with a temper, who, she says, hit his wife and two daughters. "I was told, my whole life, 'He doesn't mean it, it happens in every family,'" she says, surprised by her sudden tears.

The two girls began to stay out all night, or sleep at an aunt's place, to escape increased tension between their parents. "Jen was a very bright, capable young lady," remembers her high-school guidance counsellor, who asked that her name be withheld. Nobody doubts that her parents love her very deeply, the counsellor added. But, overwhelmed by their problems, the family broke down. Finally, Jen and her mother moved out and the adolescent entered a new school. She found new, tougher friends and went from preppie girl next door to rebel with hotly colored spiked hair. "I didn't recognize her, although she was the same girl inside," remembers the counsellor. "At first, she was headed for university. After that, if you saw her you might even be afraid of her."

Soon after, Jen felt further displaced when her mother met a boyfriend, and eventually moved in with him. And so, at 14, she began to hitchhike her way across the country. In the two years since, she has lived by her wiles in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Ottawa, Halifax, Montreal, New York City, Philadelphia and Toronto. She admits to feeling confused, one minute confidently vowing to finish Grade 10—and the next giving way to despondence.

Other squeegee kids have become substitute family. People like "Kid," whose alcoholic mom raised him (they often slept in cars or motels with her biker-gang boyfriends). Kid—not even best friends know his real name—is 14 and has been on the street for nearly five years, because "I feel safer here." He has been in youth detention, usually for assault, and uses the time to catch up on schooling and read about anarchism ("I can't handle rules," he says). Another is Danielle, whose strict parents kicked her out of the house, then called police after she returned and stole money from the family home. And there is Christine, who says she left her rural home because her father is a Nazi who tried to force her into the Heritage Front rightist movement.

Sometimes, Jen and the others scrape enough money together to share hotel rooms. Mostly, though, they resort to abandoned buildings and living off a patchwork of street services. For a shower or laundry, there is a downtown drop-in centre, for medical treatment, a clinic that does not require a health card. Someone stole Jen's backpack with all of her ID, as well as the poems and journals she furiously scribbled "to stay sane" while on the road. "That's when I learned not to base my life on material possessions," Jen says, trying not to betray a sense of loss. "Now, I just keep it in my head." When things get too tough, Jen takes to the road again—her next planned stop was the West Coast. "I'm afraid to let people get to know me. I'm afraid to get hurt."

Jen is back in contact with her estranged parents and sister, all of whom are trying to build up their lives again. She feels destined, she says, to live the squat life until she is a little older. "I'm still young, I can turn my life around." But statistics show the longer a youth is homeless, the harder it is to make it back into the mainstream. "You see a flower growing and then there's a blight," sighs Jen's former guidance counsellor. "And you wonder if the damage is too great for the flower to continue to bloom."

STRUNG OUT IN VANCOUVER

For Fabian Lamont, home is the needle-strewn emptiness of Vancouver's raw downtown East Side. At the age of 37, Lamont has a past that already seems more alive than his present—let alone his future. Ten years ago he was a husband with a loving wife, a truck driver with a paycheque, and a father who delighted in his baby son. Now, "I'm a drug addict—I think about when I'm going to get sick next," he says. His days and nights revolve around the trinity that keeps the "sickness" at bay: cocaine, heroin and the money to buy them.

There is no room for anything else. Like hundreds of other intravenous drug users in Vancouver, Lamont has contracted HIV—the virus that causes AIDS—from sharing needles. But he is, by all the evidence, a nice guy. Even now, despite a monumental binge that began when his last attempt to go straight failed two years ago, he is friendly, articulate, polite—even funny. He has seldom had trouble finding work over the years: he has sandblasted glass, framed houses and repaired mining equipment, as well as driven trucks.

Keeping a job was the problem—especially after Lamont learned to embezzle as one way to feed a secret drug habit. Even then, at least one employer kept him on anyway. "People really like him. People have always liked him," says his ex-wife, who fell for him most deeply of all. In 1987, two years after meeting Lamont in a Toronto bar, she married him. "He is quite a handsome guy," she says. "And he seemed so innocent and so fragile."

But Lamont's air of innocence was a sham. And his fragility, while real enough, had already been put to the test. The autumn that Lamont started school in Toronto in 1966, his father walked out on the family, leaving Lamont's mother on social assistance. "My mother wasn't too ... mentally stable," Lamont says. "So we moved around a lot. As soon as I got ahold of something, we were moving. I went to about 20 schools." His sister, Sharon, 12 years his elder, remembers her brother as "a very kind, loving person." Like him, she traces his troubles to their mother's instability. "He got caught up in her cycle of pain."

Lamont left school without finishing Grade 9. Still, to most appearances, he made it into adulthood with a reasonably promising future. By the time his ex-wife met him in 1985, the good-looking 25-year old was more than enough to bowl over the eager young



Lamont: a family lost to cocaine and heroin

daughter of a Toronto television producer. "It was love at first sight," she says now. "I pursued him for two years."

By the time the chase ended, she knew all about the drugs. At first, she thought Lamont's use was casual—and under control. But he had become addicted—something he could not conceal for long—and had acquired a criminal record for drug dealing. But, she says, "I really did believe if he had somebody to trust, someone he could feel safe with, he'd give all that up."

He did not—and in 1990, two years after the birth of their son and shortly after they moved to Vancouver, the relationship finally ended. Since then, Lamont has spent most of his time in search of money to feed his drug habit. Heroin has become part of his mix—he says he now needs $80 a day for that, and $100 to $500 a day for his cocaine habit. "I sell drugs, I steal," he says matter-of-factly. He seldom sleeps, often scoring and fixing continuously for as long as four days before exhaustion claims him. When it does, he finds shelter where he can—sometimes in the room of another addict, sometimes in one of the $5-a-night flophouses that dot the downtown East Side, sometimes in "places in Chinatown that nobody knows."

Lamont says he knows agencies in the area that would help him get clean if he wanted to. He has done it before. In February, 1995, he entered a rehab program and stayed off drugs for 51 weeks before sliding back into addiction. "It's really difficult for me to explain," he says of his inability, so far, to try again.

STREETWALKING IN CALGARY

Home, for the past five months, has been the downtown Calgary drop-in centre, a crowded, bleak haven that offers hot meals, showers and a cot to sleep on for the dispossessed who wander the sidewalks of Canada's boom capital. How Darlene, 32, got from a privileged past to a grim life as a street prostitute is a question that has no clear answer. The daughter of aboriginal parents, she was adopted at the age of five months into the family of a successful business executive in an international corporation. The youngest of four girls, Darlene attended private schools in places like England, Libya and the United States, becoming a class leader academically, a successful athlete and gaining a reputation as an accomplished clarinet player. "My parents gave me everything," she says. "They were wonderful."

Her life began unravelling, she remembers, shortly after she left England, where she lived for 11 years, to attend college in New Hampshire. "I was overprotected and didn't know where to turn when I was on my own—my dad wasn't there to hold me up," she says. Already secretly suffering from bulimia, Darlene began drinking too much and skipping classes. "She started partying in New Hampshire and her life has been a mess ever since," says one of her sisters. "Darlene is likely the smartest of all us girls. It's really sad what's happened to her. Everyone has tried to help her, but until she wants to take control of her life, nothing ever changes."

Darlene returned to Canada in 1988 and, since then, has had only sporadic contact with her family. A turbulent marriage ended after one year, in 1993, and she has subsequently moved from one bad relationship to another. "I guess I just know how to pick them," she says. For 10 years, she has worked "on and off" as a prostitute. After being evicted from her apartment last October, she has lived a nomadic existence, spending nights with some of her "regular" customers—or at the drop-in centre.

Her right elbow was shattered four months ago when she fell after being pushed by an ex-boyfriend. She has recently recovered from a wound on her hand—the result of a kitchen accident, she says—that became swollen and infected. The soft beauty of her face is still evident despite the worn, tired look of a hard life on the streets. She can speak with the intelligence and wit of someone educated in elite schools, but often slips into the profanities of street language. "I am who I am and if people don't like it, I don't give a shit," she says loudly over lunch in a small crowded restaurant, alcohol already slurring her words.



Darlene: from a privileged past to a grim life as a prostitute

Darlene says growing up as an Indian in a non-native family did not affect her because of the multi-racial nature of her schools around the world. But paradoxically, she admits to spending years wishing she was white-skinned and blond after being mocked as "ape-faced and nigger-nosed" by an elementary-school classmate. "When Darlene came back to Canada, she said she had no identity," says her sister. Showing a flash of determination, Darlene predicts her life on the streets will soon end. "It's a hard cycle to get out of—but I'll do it," she vows. Until then, she has her memories of a better life to sustain her.

LOSING IT ALL IN HALIFAX

Like a staccato refrain, Mike Simpson peppers his conversation with statements about what it means to live "down here." For the 37-year-old Simpson, "down here" is where he has been for much of the past year—walking away his days on the gritty streets of North End Halifax, spending his nights huddled in garbage bins, carports, street hostels. The repeated references to "down here" also reflect how far he feels he has fallen—from a steady, well-paying job, from the warmth and convenience of an apartment and car, from the comfort of friends and family. Many of those ties to his past life began to fray the day he first fed coins into a video-lottery terminal, and thought he got lucky. "I put $30 into it and won $300—there's your hook right there," he says. "You think you're going to keep on winning. But you don't."

Simpson, who had worked for a decade as a home heating technician with a Halifax contractor, succumbed quickly to the spell of the gambling machines. "I'd go into a tavern for lunch and wouldn't leave until 2 o'clock," he recalls. "You got a pager that's going nuts and you're late by an hour, but you have a 300-point bonus on the screen and you don't want to leave." About six months after he started gambling, he says, his employer laid him off. Two months after that, he lost his apartment. For a time, he moved back in with his parents. But arguments ensued, often about his gambling, and soon he hit the streets.



Simpson: an intense gambler who loved video-lottery machines until his luck ran out

Simpson, who is an imposing six feet, eight inches, surprised himself with his ability to survive. "The two things you have to do down here is to stay warm and to stay dry," he says. He quickly learned which garbage bins provided the best refuge—those without discarded meat products are far less smelly—and how a few sheets of cardboard or a discarded piece of carpet can provide an essential layer of protection against a cold concrete floor. For safety's sake, he found that it was best to try to sleep between 7 p.m. and midnight, so as to keep a wary eye open during the early morning hours when life on the street is most likely to turn violent. "It doesn't matter what size you are when you're laying down and somebody smashes you over the head," he notes.

For all of that, Simpson was slow to take advantage of some of the

GUZZLING IN OTTAWA

Marcel Pommainville is a street drunk with a bad leg, a grizzled beard, not many teeth and surprisingly clear brown eyes. At 63, he has outlived most of the men who have, as he puts it, "shared a guzzle" with him over four decades on the streets of Ottawa's Byward Market area. The city's cops have been hauling him in to sober up for so many years that the experience has become a rite of passage of sorts for rookies. Otherwise, those who strive to help the capital's homeless do not have much to do with him. There are programs tailored for young runaways, abused women and sufferers of mental illness. For an unrepentant back alley boozer, however, there is only a hot meal at the Shepherds of Good Hope soup kitchen and a bunk in the mission's shelter when the winter nights get too cold for even the toughest to sleep outside.

Everyone calls him Mac—even his mother did. "I left Mom and Dad when I was 14 years old because they were arguing all the time," Mac recalls. "I said, 'Give me my clothes or I'll leave with just the clothes I have on.' Mum said, 'He's got a hard head, this one.'" Mac said he joined the army around 1950—he does receive an army pension. Asked what other jobs he has held, he casts his mind back to a long-ago stint as a bellboy at the Lord Elgin Hotel. "It was all right," he allows. "I learned English anyway."

Mostly, though, Mac has spent his life drinking. His preference is fortified red wine, but he is not finicky. Shaving lotion will do in a pinch, but he admits, "If I drink too much of it, I'll take a dive." Judging from the shape of his nose, Mac has taken a few. Still, considering the life he has lived, he appears to be in remarkably good condition—wiry but not gaunt, the shaking of his hand reasonably under control as he lights his cigarette. And this is a particularly satisfying after-lunch smoke, as a condition of agreeing to a long conversation, Mac was granted all but unheard-of permission to light up inside the mission, *in the chapel*.

Mac insists he feels more at home outside on the streets of the market. "There are a lot of old buddies there," he says. Beyond this company and the workers at the shelter, Mac has few links to society. He has lost touch with brothers and sisters. A few years ago, a woman named Francine sought him out, claiming he was her father. "I said, 'I'm busy bumming, so screw off,'" Mac says. "But she bought me a bottle of wine, so we talked for a while. She is my daughter. She looks a bit like me." He does not remember her last name, on his single file card of information in the mission office, Francine is written as next-of-kin. Beside the name is a telephone number that is out of service.

Few of the transient prostitutes, panhandlers and drug addicts who frequent the streets where the market's trendy restaurants and lively bars give way to low-rent housing will match Mac's tenure. On the latest breed of street denizen—the squeegee kids—Mac casts a bemused eye. "When I was a kid, I'd have taken off with the car and everything in it," he says, "not cleaned the windows." Asked if he has any advice for those who might be following in his unsteady footsteps, Mac loses his patience. "Punks want to tell me about their troubles," he said. "I don't want to hear about it. I say to them, 'Want a guzzle?'"

Pommainville: four decades of bad booze



M.K. PINDER FOR MACLEAN'S

services available to Halifax's street people. He says he spent four days without eating before he could bring himself to partake of the evening meal at the Hope Cottage soup kitchen. For several months, he also refused to apply for social assistance. Lorna Pendleton, who helps run a drop-in centre and outreach program for the homeless at Halifax's Brunswick Street United Church, says Simpson is "a man who lives by his own fairly high standards of conduct," and who gets quite upset when he sees people abusing the welfare system or the hospitality of the drop-in centre, where he was a regular. "It tells me that he must have come from a good family," says Pendleton (Simpson's parents declined to be interviewed).

But the days and nights on the street have taken an obvious toll. After being arrested in January on a number of charges, including mischief, assault and uttering a threat against a member of his family, Simpson underwent psychiatric examinations. These concluded that he was fit to stand trial, but the psychiatric report filed with the court raised doubts about whether he was capable of "appreciating the nature and quality of the acts charged against him and of knowing that they were wrong." As of last week, he remained in custody, awaiting trial. Pendleton says that Simpson's actions appeared to her to be out of character, adding that "Big Mike," as he is known around the drop-in centre, is "a gentle guy, a really nice man" who often helped out around the church. But Pendleton notes that Simpson was becoming increasingly frustrated with his predicament. "This is what happens to these guys," she says. "We see them break a lot. Mike is going down."

In the second of two interviews with *Maclean's*, just a few days before his arrest, Simpson was visibly agitated. He spoke of the mental stress of living on the street and his desire to return to his old life. But then he added: "I really don't think you can jump out of here. It's a ladder—you have to take it one rung at a time." As he knows, there can also be many false steps before reaching solid ground.



CHRISTOPHER MOORE / FIN MAG / AT

Gauthier: a $1,600-a-week cocaine habit and a lasting battle with depression

DEPRESSED IN MONTREAL

The wooded Laurentians retreat where Claude Gauthier takes long walks is far removed from the bustling Montreal streets he used to roam. "It's beautiful here all the time," says Gauthier, 40, taking in the snow-dusted trees at Camp Chapleau near Morin-Heights, Que. The sprawling camp, run by the Montreal-based Old Brewery Mission, has been Gauthier's home for 16 months—and a salvation of sorts. Once a high-level manager, Gauthier spent half a year sleeping in crowded shelters and a city park. He now spends his days doing renovation work on the camp's buildings, no longer chain-smoking three packs of cigarettes a day, his stress level "almost zero," his asthma attacks under control. "It's good for me," Gauthier says. "It's giving me back my strength."

It had been a long fall. In his mid-20s, Gauthier, a college graduate, started working for a Montreal gasket manufacturer and rose steadily through the ranks to head up the production department. But success came at a price. A self-confessed workaholic, Gauthier routinely spooned down indigestion medicine to calm his churning stomach. "I had no time to take care of my family," says Gauthier, who lived with his then girlfriend Claude Lefebvre and their daughter, Justine.

In 1989, unhappy with the way the company was being run, Gauthier, who estimates he had about $250,000 in savings, quit his job and tried, unsuccessfully, to set up a rival company. After that, he says, "I didn't know what to do. I was lost—and tired all the time." He felt he could not afford to take time off to regroup. Instead, he headed to bars and began using cocaine, which soon became a $1,600-a-week habit. Gauthier maintains that if he had seen a doctor, "I would have realized that I was suffering from excessive stress." Lefebvre, 46, a friendly woman with short grey hair, noticed troublesome signs earlier. "He didn't drink a lot, but he's a man who can't handle alcohol," she maintains.

According to Lefebvre, he also used pot or hash, which she cites along with alcohol as the reasons behind their breakup. Gauthier says that they split up because he was overworked and neglected the relationship. There appears to be no doubt, however, that Gauthier's life started spiralling out of control after he left his job. Two years later, a broke Gauthier landed a job as a cook and moved back in with Lefebvre. He quit his restaurant job in 1994 and seven or eight months later, he and Lefebvre split up for good—leaving Gauthier homeless. Initially too ashamed to seek help at a shelter, Gauthier camped out for a month in a Montreal park, unable to afford cocaine or alcohol and battling depression and asthma. Although he has to pause to remember when he first became homeless, Gauthier vividly recalls his first visit to a shelter for a meal. "I wasn't able to eat," says Gauthier, noting that tears streamed down his face at the time. Ill from his asthma and in "the full swing of a depression," Gauthier spent half of the next year in what he describes as "cockroach motel" rooming houses, which he says was all he could afford on his monthly welfare cheque.

In August, 1996, Gauthier boarded an Old Brewery Mission bus for Camp Chapleau. Gauthier stayed ever since—first volunteering for maintenance work and later enrolling in a welfare program that pays him minimum wage for construction work. Those who know him say the camp has performed wonders. "He talks a lot more now," says Chapleau supervisor Fred Griffith, who adds that Gauthier has gained self confidence. Lefebvre, who remains on good terms with Gauthier, adds: "He has come a long way in getting his life back together."

Gauthier now sees his 11-year-old daughter on a regular basis and was able to buy her a portable sound system for Christmas. Gently striking his chest with his fist, Gauthier says "little gestures" like that are helping restore his pride. He maintains that drugs are no longer a problem—and neither is alcohol, which Gauthier maintains was never an addiction (both are banned at the camp). He is not sure what kind of work he wants to do when his welfare program ends in April. He would prefer to stay on longer at the camp. "It would allow me to become even stronger," he says, acknowledging that he is afraid of winding up back on the street. But that is a fear Gauthier hopes stays with him for life. "When you stop being afraid," he says, "that's when it becomes dangerous." □

NOW THAT YOU HAVE A VIRTUAL OFFICE,
YOU NEED A VIRTUAL BRIEFCASE TO GO WITH IT.





Make sure your [illegible] or notebook PC has ZIP BUILT-IN.™ External Zip drive also available for $199 and 100MB disks as low as $17.99.*

What's the point of having a lightweight laptop if you need a forklift to carry your briefcase? Try toting around genuine 100MB Zip® disks instead. Each one puts the capacity of 70 floppies in the palm of your hand. Like a little virtual briefcase for all your stuff. With over 10 million out there, you'll find Zip drives just about everywhere you go. In fact, most leading PC companies now offer ZIP BUILT-IN™ drives. And if you already have a computer, you can buy an external Zip drive. So pack up your Zip disks and hit the road, warriors. Who needs an office anyway? Get your Zip drive and Zip disks where you get computer products. Or visit our Website www.iomega.com/zip

BECAUSE IT'S

iomega

'THIS IS A HUMAN PROBLEM'

The system is strained to the breaking point



BY PATRICIA CHISHOLM

They start lining up at dusk, as the temperature sinks and the hunger pains get stronger. The doors of St. Andrew's—a handsome old Presbyterian church in downtown Toronto, flanked on one side by the towers of Bay Street, on the other by the city's glossiest theatres and restaurants—finally open at 6 p.m., offering food and shelter for anyone who wants it. But many of the 200 or so street people who file in for the home-cooked meal of soup, beef stew and apple pie turn down a warm mattress for the night: the bottle, mental instability or just plain pride keep them outside. What the dispossessed desperately need, they say, is a home—not the temporary, if much-needed, basics provided by shelters. "I don't want someone's smelly feet in my face," says Josh, a young artist who regularly visits the Out of the Cold program run by 5,000 volunteers at St. Andrew's and many other Toronto churches and synagogues, but who usually sleeps outdoors. "I don't want to deal with the fights and the bullshit."

Brave words. But acquiring what many Canadians view as a necessity of life—reliable shelter—seems more and more difficult for the growing numbers who roam the cores of Canada's richest cities. While the national unemployment rate remains stubbornly high at 8.6 per cent, welfare rates have been slashed in almost every province over the past few years. At the same time, rents have risen and the supply of cheap housing continues to shrink. Governments have been blamed for being too aggressive about closing psychiatric hospital beds, leaving some patients with no place to go.

And in the homeless capital of Canada, Toronto, massive cuts to subsidized housing are at least partly responsible for fuelling an appalling problem: the spectacle of more and more young children with nowhere to go. A study by the United Way of Greater Toronto, released last November, found that in 1996 the fastest-growing segment of the homeless in the nation's wealthiest city was families with children, 56 per cent of the total.

Tracking the number of homeless is difficult. There are no national statistics, and definitions of homelessness range from the hundreds who almost always sleep outdoors, to the tens of thousands across the country who regularly use shelters, temporary housing, or double up with family and friends. The Toronto United Way report also estimated that in 1996 about 28,000 different people used one of that city's 5,000 shelter spaces at least once. A further 138,000, it found, are precariously housed, usually in substandard accommodation that eats up more than half of their income.

The homeless are also becoming more visible in Vancouver, which is struggling with an explosion of cheap drugs and the rapid spread of HIV among addicts. The city, like several other major urban centres, is plagued with sky-high rents and a vacancy rate of less than one per cent. Judy Graves, co-ordinator of tenant assistance for the City of Vancouver, estimates that there are about 600 people sleeping outdoors on any given night. The city's shelter system accommodates another 260 or so a night, and is almost always full. The numbers have been rising steadily over the past six years, Graves notes, in the wake of a post-Expo 86 real estate boom that coincided with a flood of crack and other forms of cocaine. But unlike some other large Canadian cities, Vancouver has still managed to maintain some relatively cheap private housing in single-room occupancy hotels. Although currently under threat from gentrification, these hotels, in the city's downtown East Side, continue to provide housing for about 7,000 people, many on social assistance.

In Calgary and Halifax, the story is much the same: fewer jobs for the unskilled or inexperienced, cuts to welfare and recent declines in the supply of cheap housing. Those factors affect many people who never expected to be without shelter. Laid-off workers, recent graduates and single-parent families are joining the ranks of the addicted and hard-core unemployable, often because rock-bottom welfare rates are forcing them to choose between food and shelter. Between 1993 and 1996, Alberta slashed payments for single employable recipients to $394 from $470 a month. In Nova Scotia, welfare for a single employable adult is now $369 a month, down from $494 two years ago. "Ten years ago, the homeless person was fairly definable: transient, older, addicted," notes Michael Burke, a consulting engineer and member of the board of directors for the Hope Cottage soup kitchen in North End Halifax. Hope Cottage served about 60,000 meals last year, up from 45,000 before the cuts. "Now, we have people in line with two university degrees and whose only job in the past three years was as a crossing guard," Burke says.

Huddling around a steam grate in Toronto: no social skills and no caring support

If the face of homelessness is changing, so too is the debate over its causes—and the most appropriate remedies. While maladies like mental illness, addiction and family breakdown are widely perceived as the most common reasons, the reality may be much more complex. Toronto's Clarke Institute of Psychiatry recently completed a study of 300 regular shelter visitors. It found that although about 11 per cent suffered severe mental illness, the steep reduction in psychiatric hospital beds over the past three decades is not a significant factor in the rising rates of homelessness.

It did find, however, that more than 50 per cent of homeless people suffer from some degree of depression and that they experienced their first bout of the illness before landing on the street. "Homelessness is much more closely related to broad problems in our society," says Paula Goering, the psychiatric nurse who headed the Clarke study. "We are dealing with vulnerable people who can't cope with stresses like the economy, housing shortages and job issues. Many have had very impoverished childhoods, the rates of sexual abuse are four to five times a normal community sample. It's not surprising that it all goes together."

The bitterest debates, of course, are reserved for remedies. After five decades of increasingly generous social assistance matched by mounting government debt, many taxpayers support the recent wave of cutbacks in social programs. There must be a better way, they argue, to deal with a problem that never seems to improve. Harry Hiller, a professor of urban sociology at the University of Calgary, acknowledges that part of Alberta's rising homeless rate is due to the province's recent welfare cuts. But he believes the jury is still out on the precise nature of the connection between the two. The causes go deeper, he says, pointing to a competitive urban society that chews up people who lack support systems and the social skills to function in a changing workplace. "What we need is a mixture of government and the private sector, where incentives are in place to lure these people," he says. "We need to develop a more caring society generally—maybe that is what we've lost."

But for Ernie Lightman, an economist at the University of Toronto's school of social work, "it all comes down to dollars." The country's vaunted social safety net is in tatters, he says—and many Canadians simply do not care. "We give them inadequate welfare, a handshake and wish them well, and they can't cope," he says. Lightman agrees with some cost-cutting measures, such as the move away from institutionalizing everyone with psychiatric problems. But it is essential, he adds, to ensure that those who cannot cope have a place to live and enough to eat. "Welfare cuts are the single major determinant of homelessness in Ontario," he says.

There are signs that some governments are waking up to the gravity of the crisis. In January, British Columbia's New Democrats announced a seven-year plan to revamp provincial services for the mentally ill. Psychiatric hospital beds will continue to be phased out, but more funding will be provided for subsidized housing, outreach programs and emergency care for the mentally ill. In Alberta, the tight-fisted Tories recently gave Calgary $100,000 to convert a vacant warehouse into a temporary shelter that can accommodate 100 people. In Toronto, Mayor Mel Lastman created a task force last November. But with the city already grappling with massive cost-cutting by the province and sharp rises in property taxes, many observers believe it will be almost impossible to do much more for Toronto's most destitute citizens. (In the face of mounting criticism, the Ontario Tories created a task force of their own shortly after Lastman did, with a province-wide mandate.)

While the debates go on, the sense of urgency among those on the front lines grows. David Brown has been an outreach worker in Vancouver's downtown core for the past six years. Recently, he says, he has noticed a significant upsurge in the numbers of homeless, straining the system almost to the breaking point. A higher minimum wage and more affordable housing would go a long way to easing the pressure, he says, but he has become convinced that real solutions will only come when the community at large insists that something be done. "This is not a government problem," he says, "this is a human problem, a social problem." And this winter one that has reached a highly visible crisis point.

With NOMI MORRIS in Toronto, DALE EISLER in Calgary and BRIAN BERGMAN in Halifax

The Charest effect

BY BRUCE WALLACE

It was another one of those frustrating weeks for Canadians who complain they can't pry Quebec's grip from the wheel of the national political agenda. There was Jean Charest, a Quebecer who leads the federal Conservatives, asking for a short period of time to decide whether he should answer the calls begging him to come home to lead the Quebec Liberal party. "The choice is very difficult," a sombre, visibly unhappy Charest announced in Ottawa after finally calling a halt to the charade of saying no to the overtures. But by then, the Canadian political class was already making plans for what happens after his departure from federal politics. His answer is expected to come this week and could trigger upheaval everywhere from the premiership of Alberta to the highest office in the land. And so the old lament was heard once again in the rest of Canada: here we wait, to see how the ripples from Quebec will rock *our* world.

"The West is coming of age in the federation," insisted a low-key Preston Manning as he sat in his Parliament Hill office one morning last week, impatiently waiting along with everyone else for Charest to announce his decision. Below him in the House of Commons, his Reform party colleagues whiled away the time by engaging the other four federal parties in a demagogic spectacle over the presence of flags in the House of Commons—an example of how Ottawa politics can often reach base levels. But Manning's mind was focused on greater things. "Since this Charest development came up, our campaign to create a united alternative to the Liberals has been legitimated," he said. Manning prides himself on knowing political history, casually suggesting an analogy between the reformist politics of 1848 that gave Canada responsible government and the current period of change. Charest's departure from the Tories, he argues, could "shake up the whole question of party lines and alliances in much the same way."

That Manning's own career could be a casualty of that earthquake only underscores just how fascinating Canadian politics has suddenly become. Until Daniel Johnson's resignation as Quebec Liberal leader on March 2 unlocked a stuck-in-neutral political system, federal politics had practically slid off the radar screen as a spectator sport. It was hard to work up a good argument over the backyard fence about the stultifying scene in Ottawa. Talk show hosts with any sensitivity to their ratings blanched when someone suggested devoting a show to federal politics.

But Johnson's bold move to choose early retirement over almost certain electoral defeat to separatist leader Lucien Bouchard this year tipped the pieces on the Canadian political chessboard. In Quebec, the likelihood of Charest's taking the Liberal reins at a convention to be held—it was announced late on Friday—on June 12 and 13 in Quebec City gave a death row reprieve to party loyalists who had despaired of their chances against the revered Bouchard. New polls were published last week suggesting Charest would beat Bouchard in an election expected this fall, although sober voices—notably Charest's—warned that unseating the Parti Quebecois remains a monumental task. For one thing, Charest would have to knit together an unlikely band of allies—melding some of his own people to the Quebec Liberal machine. As baffling as it may seem to outsiders, it is perfectly reasonable for a Quebec voter to simultaneously be a federal Tory, a provincial Pequiste, and to vote No in a referendum on independence. "I can't believe I'd be expected to work with Liberals," muttered a senior Charest organizer over a lunch in Montreal last week. "I'm used to fighting those guys."



Charest at a Sherbrooke, Que., science fair: a death row reprieve for Quebec Liberals



Manning: his career could be a casualty of a Klein candidacy

Knocking together a smoothly functioning organization may be as difficult for Charest as getting his lips to pronounce the term "Liberal" with pride after years of sneering at it in the federal arena. Yet the provincial party remains Liberal in name only—it is merely an umbrella under which Quebec's anti-Pequiste forces gather. The collection of rival factions makes the Quebec Liberal party as dysfunctional a political family as they come, seemingly intent upon perfecting the art of infighting. As he pondered his own future, Charest himself fretted about being chewed to pieces by its cabal politics.

Charest's own instincts told him that his best hope of beating Bouchard lay in becoming the candidate who would bury the prospect of Quebecers having to go through another referendum. A flurry of polls this month also showed that more than 60 per cent of Quebecers—including 14 per cent of PQ supporters in one authoritative sampling by the Angus Reid Group—do not want to go through the collective anguish of another referendum. They do not want to argue with their friends again, do not want more holiday gatherings spoiled for the family by another debate on secession over dinner. But the PQ is committed to holding a referendum if it wins another mandate, a pledge Bouchard repeated last week. Backing off would split the party. It is his most apparent vulnerability.

But to capitalize, Charest will have to avoid the swamp of old-fashioned, provincial Liberal constitutional politics that has forever sought a third way between independence and the status quo. "He needs a new speech, new language and a new message to show that he will not play the same old games," says a senior Quebec Liberal with strong links to Prime Minister Jean Chretien. Charest engaged in a little Chretien-bashing last week: something he felt was necessary to demonstrate his independence from the federal Liberals to Quebecers. But it did not sit well with the Chretien entourage, who worried that Charest showed signs of slipping into the old provincial habit of running on an anti-Ottawa platform.

The federal Liberals may soon have bigger long-term worries. The prospect of the top Tory job coming open gave an adrenaline boost to those politicians who want to create a viable national alternative to the Liberals on the right of Canadian politics. Manning sees such a coalition as much broader than the simple "Unite the right" slogan suggests. "We don't just want to be some right-wing NDP where we get all the fiscal conservatives together," he told *Maclean's*. Manning wants an expanded party under the banner of Reform, of course, to also welcome those who believe in his grassroots-led approach to governing, and those who want to modernize the Canadian federation on the principle of equality of the provinces. "If you get all the people who share those things together, then you have the critical mass, the potential for a governing party commanding 40 to 50 per cent of the popular vote," he said.

The only hitch in his strategy was that many of those agreeing with him last week were also suggesting that Alberta Premier Ralph Klein—not Manning—was the leader for the job. The swell of voices calling for Klein to jump into federal politics clearly had Manning unnerved. And, while he was not about to step aside to allow it to happen as some newspaper headlines suggested ("wishful thinking," smiled Manning), he did not rule out another leader seizing the standard. The new political force should be part of "an expanded, bigger, broader Reform party," he said. "We're not going out of business until the voters put us out of business." But, he added somewhat cryptically, "I'm willing to talk to anybody, no matter what their political stripe, about doing it."

Manning's musings likely will increase the pressure for Klein to enter federal politics. The Alberta premier coyly played the reluctant candidate last week, but there was no shortage of Alberta Tories suggesting he was eager to push his political career beyond his prairie horizons. "Ralph's interest in federal politics *precedes* the Charest developments," said one Calgary Tory. "Other things may happen, he may find it would be too much work. But he's inclined to go." Klein himself, whose lack of French would be an obstacle to getting support in Quebec, had a bit of fun with all the speculation, opening his remarks to his annual fund-raising dinner in Calgary this month with a mischievous "Bonsoir, mes amis."

A shakeup looms in Canada's political leadership

But Klein has sent more serious signals of his interest in national affairs. He travelled to Montreal last fall to accept an award from the McCarthy Tetrault law firm, where partners say he impressed the invited guests from Montreal's business community. His staff has maintained the links. "He is not perceived at all as a Quebec basher," said one prominent Montrealer who attended the dinner. Klein also took a leadership role among the nine non-Quebec premiers in passing the Calgary Declaration, which recognizes Quebec's "uniqueness" while maintaining the equality of the provinces. The major drawback to a Klein candidacy is his lack of French, but associates say he is prepared to learn. "Ralph knows he would have to learn French and he would," said one, before adding with a laugh, "It might take him a lifetime, though."

Such were the forces unleashed by the developments in that old political squeaky wheel—Quebec. Tories were on the phone, discussing whether their future lay with a "unite the right" candidate like Klein, or with someone like longtime party apparatchik Hugh Segal, who was determined to put the "progressive" back in Progressive Conservative. Reformers were wondering what Manning's peculiar musings about his own future really meant. Liberals suddenly faced the prospect of trying to hold their Ontario fort, the foundation of their power, against a united alternative. All of this activity is set against the backdrop of an impending fight for Quebec's soul between two champions whose emotional appeal has not been matched since the days of Pierre Trudeau and Rene Levesque. □

Quest for truth

The quints demand an Ontario forensic audit

Bundled up in sweaters inside their drafty bungalow Annette, Cecile and Yvonne Dionne smiled and laughed as they posed for a picture. Their ease in front of the camera spoke volumes about the remarkable week they had just experienced. After years of living in poverty while demanding compensation for their childhood exploitation at the hands of the Ontario government, the surviving Dionne quintuplets faced the pleasant prospect of becoming millionaires—and an even sweeter feeling of vindication. On March 6, Ontario Conservative Premier Mike Harris offered $4 million to the Dionnes, who were taken away from their parents as infants and put on public display in a theme park known as Quintland, near North Bay. Last week, sitting on a small couch in their modest home in the Montreal suburb of St-Bruno, the shy 63-year-old sisters were upbeat but cautious in a relaxed conversation in French with *Maclean's*. "I'm relieved," said Annette simply. Asked if she was happy with the settlement, Cecile replied: "Happy is a big word. I am content."

The reason for her restraint is that the saga is not over yet. Harris also promised an inquiry into the province's "treatment" of the Dionne quintuplets during their childhood, but not what the premier called "the monetary part." But for the Dionnes any inquiry must include a forensic audit into the fate of their trust fund money—something their lawyer, Clayton Ruby, says may entitle them to millions more. Set up in 1935 while the quints were wards of Ontario, the trust fund totalled only $800,000 when they turned 21. But by one estimate their loss from the fund was as much as $22 million. The Dionnes want the inquiry to start as soon as possible. "I want it done to see what happened," says Cécile, the most vocal of the soft-spoken sisters.

It was Cecile and her son, Bertrand, 36, who first began to investigate the hundreds of relevant documents in the Ontario archives in 1994. They did not like what they saw—one 1940 financial account from the Dionnes' guardianship shows that more than $17,000 was spent in legal and administrative fees during a 15-month period. Although Ontario Judge J. A. S. Plouffe approved the guardians' financial statements at the time, he noted: "Surely the estate of the Dionne quintuplets is not of such magnitude and its affairs are not so complicated to warrant the above-mentioned expenditure." Now, Bertrand Dionne says, "I'm satisfied in the sense that my suspicions were well founded. But I'll be even more satisfied once the review is done." As for whether justice has been served by the $4-million settlement, Cécile says it's difficult to say because she does not know what the files will ultimately reveal. But a cheque with six zeros, Cecile adds, "still feels good when we have nothing in our pockets."

The sisters plan to hire an accountant and



CHRISTOPHER MORRIS FOR MACLEAN'S

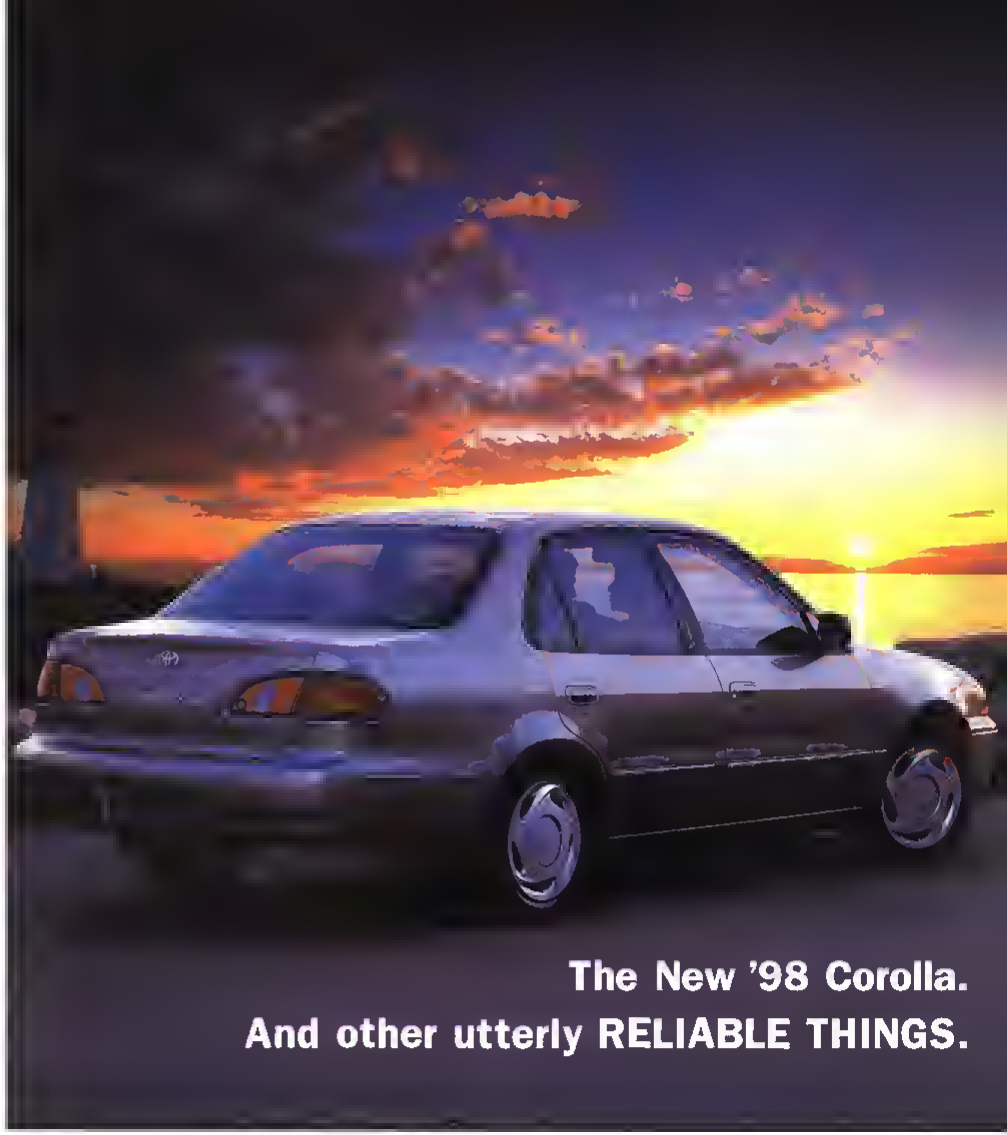
Yvonne (left), Cécile and Annette: entitled to millions more?

spoil themselves by buying some clothes. Until now, they have been living on a combined pension of $746 a month. Their living room ceiling sports a long strip of white paint concealing stains from a leaky roof. "I'm going to pay off my debts," says Cecile. Annette, who rarely travels and has flown only once, hopes to take a few small trips. Her last one was to Toronto, Annette says, as her sisters burst out laughing, recalling the grim Feb. 26 trip that the sisters made for the news conference where they flatly turned down the Ontario government's $6,000-a-month offer. "I think I'll go a little bit farther than Toronto," chimes in Yvonne, laughing. Switching to a serious tone, she adds: "I haven't given much thought to the future. There are so many emotions at the same time. It's difficult to absorb all this."

There is still lingering displeasure with the Harris government's handling of their claim. "First of all, they took an enormous amount of time," says Cecile. "And they showed a lot of indifference. That was quite frustrating." After facing a barrage of criticism for his initial response, Harris met with the Dionnes in Bertrand's home on March 6 to personally apologize on behalf of past—and present—Ontario governments. Both the premier, who presented the sisters with a coffee cake, and the Dionnes described the visit as emotional. It was also brief. "Eleven minutes," says Cécile matter-of-factly.

If a generous response from Queen's Park wasn't initially forthcoming, that was not the case among other Canadians who sent cheques and wrote letters of support, including one Ontario roofer who offered to fix the Dionnes' leak for free. Given their settlement, the donations that can be traced back will be returned, says Carlo Tarini, the Montreal public relations executive who drummed up media attention on the Dionnes' behalf, and money that cannot be traced will go to charity. The Dionne sisters, meanwhile, have not celebrated their victory. Instead, they continue to press their case for an audit and plan to wait for the long sought answers. "I hope that what we have experienced will give courage to women caught up with problems, that they don't despair and that they continue fighting," says Cecile. For the sisters, waging a fight for justice meant heading out into the very arena that proved so painful for them in the past—the spotlight.

BRENDA BRANSWELL



Starting from $14,928*. At Toyota, we believe the only time you should be sitting at the side of the road is because you want to. As with all our cars, the new Corolla promises to get you there, day after day, kilometer after kilometer. After all, it's what our standard of quality and reliability is all about. It's certainly what we believe peace of mind should be about. Though once you're on the road, you'll soon forget all else. Instead, you'll just marvel at the improved 120 hp engine, while smiling all the while at its better gas mileage. Then again, what do you expect? It is a Toyota, after all. Call us at 1-888-TOYOTA-B or visit www.toyota.ca

TOYOTA COROLLA
UNLIKE ANY OTHER CAR. JUST LIKE EVERY TOYOTA

Your Toyota dealer is a proud sponsor of Canadian Special Olympics. *MSRP for 1998 Corolla VE model BR12EM-A with 5-spd. manual transmission. Price excludes license, insurance, applicable taxes, registration, freight and PDE. Dealer may sell for less. LE model shown. See dealer for details.



Give us 20 minutes. We'll give you a new way to find profit.

Twenty minutes with an NRC specialist will open your eyes to new opportunities. Improve your current technologies and increase your profit. Discover new intellectual properties. Increase productivity and cut costs. Find the best ways to develop your products and your markets. It takes only a phone call and a visit from one of our people who specializes in your business sector.

NRC: your competitive edge.

Call 1-613-993-9101 or visit www.nrc.ca/business today.

NRC · CNRC

National Research Council Canada | Conseil national de recherches Canada

Canada

Canada NOTES

BINNIE'S GAFFE

Newly appointed Supreme Court of Canada Judge Ian Binnie startled an audience of lawyers and judges when he joked about a "faggoty dress-up party" during a dinner speech to the Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto. Binnie later apologized, saying he was referring to a description of the initiation rituals in a fraternity booklet that referred to the use of flags, wigs and candles. But critics, including openly gay MP Svend Robinson who described the incident as "deeply offensive," said they would be watching how Binnie handles a Supreme Court hearing this week involving the division of assets in a failed gay relationship.

OILERS STAY

A group of local investors met the March 13 deadline for submitting a bid to the Alberta Treasury Branches aimed at keeping the National Hockey League Edmonton Oilers in the city. The group, which has raised about half the $102-million purchase price, met the NHL's demand for a $7-million nonrefundable deposit, blocking a sale to American businessman Les Alexander, who planned to move the Oilers to Houston.

ALBRIGHT ON QUEBEC

As the first U.S. secretary of state to visit Ottawa in 10 years, Madeleine Albright sought Canada's support on Iraq, the former Yugoslavia and Cuba. But she carefully avoided involving herself in the national unity debate, declaring: "It's an internal issue and the United States will not intervene."

ENDING THE MUSEUM WAR

Historian Jack Granatstein was named director of the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. Granatstein had turned the job down, but was lured with a promise of greater autonomy. The museum recently angered veterans, who objected to a planned Holocaust gallery. The gallery was later dropped in favor of a stand-alone museum.

DOCTOR'S MEDICINE

Maurice Genereux, the first doctor in Canada convicted of helping a patient commit suicide, was stripped of his licence to practise medicine by Ontario's College of Physicians and Surgeons. Genereux will be sentenced for the assisted suicide on April 29.



BEN MARTIN/MONCTON TIMES & TRANSCRIPT

WATER HAZARD: **Bill White of Memramcook, N.B., near Moncton, was forced to change his travel plans as much of southern New Brunswick struggled in the wake of a torrential downpour that dumped up to 78 mm of rain in some areas. One of the hardest-hit communities was Welsford, near Saint John, where the Nerepis River flooded several houses and upended a covered bridge. About 270 residents were trapped in their homes for two days after three access roads were washed out. Municipalities Minister Ann Breault said the province will ask Ottawa for aid. "Damage," Breault said, "is in the millions of dollars."**

Sterilizing Klein's legislation

The Alberta government, facing public ridicule, dropped a controversial bill that would have placed a $150,000 cap on compensation for 700 people forcibly sterilized between 1928 and 1972. The bill drew widespread criticism because it allowed Alberta to use the Constitution's notwithstanding clause to override victims' rights to go to court. A day after unveiling the legislation, Alberta backed off. "I was out of tune," Premier Ralph Klein said. "My political sense probably didn't click into gear."

Under Alberta's Sexual Sterilization Act, more than 2,800 men, women and children were designated mental defectives, and a government-appointed eugenics board ordered them sterilized. Most are now dead, but those who survive want compensation. Leilani Muir, who launched the first forced-sterilization lawsuit against the province, won almost $1 million in 1996. Alberta, however, says it will continue to offer victims a maximum of $150,000 in out-of-court settlements. If they want more, they will have to sue. That upset Dolores Flamont, who was told in 1956 she was having her appendix removed. "When I got back and told my friends I got my appendix out, they started to laugh and said, 'They sterilized you and you can never have kids.' I was 13 and I just broke down and cried."

Flag flap flutter

Commons Speaker Gilbert Parent's woes started on Feb. 26, when MPs waving Canadian flags sang *O Canada* to drown out a question by Bloc Quebecois MP Suzanne Tremblay, who had complained about the proliferation of Canadian flags at the Nagano Olympics. The Bloc branded the singing incident disruptive and demanded Parent bar displays of the Maple Leaf in the Commons. Last week, Reform Leader Preston Manning widened the debate, raising Parent's comments to a Cuban delegation in which Parent equated Cuba's one-party rule to the Liberal sweep of all of New Brunswick's provincial seats in 1987. When Parent refused to let Manning continue, Reformers stormed out. By week's end, MPs from all five parties had failed to negotiate an end to the flag flap.

Toughing it out

Pressure mounts on Indonesia's Suharto

BY TOM FENNELL



Only a year ago, the scene would have been unthinkable. To express the seething anger sweeping her country, Aditia, a 22-year-old Jakarta university student, held aloft a giant caricature of Indonesian President Suharto wearing a tilted crown and sitting on a throne atop a sea of U.S. dollars. The bloated image waving above the student demonstration struck at the very heart of the problem afflicting a $160-billion bailout that the International Monetary Fund has deployed to keep afloat the near-bankrupt governments of Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea. While his regional neighbors quickly implemented the IMF dictates, Suharto is resisting reforms that could strip his family and friends of their corporate empires. As he delays, the country threatens to tumble into violence and derail the IMF's rescue plan. But last week, as all 1,000 hand-picked members of the People's Consultative Assembly shouted "Agreed!" to anoint the 76-year-old strongman for his seventh five-year term, he showed no sign of softening. "As an individual, some of us may lead an affluent life," he told the assembly. "But as a nation, we must tighten our belts."

Suharto's call for sacrifices while the rich continued to live extravagantly only fuelled the anger of thousands of student demonstrators. Opposition politicians, growing ever bolder, demanded that audits be conducted on the president, whose net worth is estimated at more than $20 billion, and his close friends—many of whom he appointed to his new cabinet. Suharto was unmoved. He simply assumed new powers to ban demonstrations and outlaw political parties. In a decision that many outsiders took as a defiant message to the IMF, he appointed as his vice-president Bacharuddin Jusuf Habibie, a German-trained engineer who as technology minister spent massively on megaprojects that the fund wants killed. And on the day of Suharto's election, no fewer than four of his children chastised the IMF by appealing to Indonesians' strong sense of nationalism. Said eldest daughter Siti Hardiyanti Rukmana: "If the IMF's funds sacrifice and degrade our nation's dignity, we do not want them."

The growing trouble in Indonesia could not come at a worse time for the region. Bitter economic and fiscal reforms in South Korea and Thailand are beginning to take hold. If chaos paralyzes Indonesia—with 202 million people, the fourth most populous nation in the world—analysts believe there will be a further disastrous run on Asian currencies. Veteran observers are increasingly pessimistic. Robert Broadfoot, managing director of the Hong Kong-based Political and Economic Risk Consultancy, told *Maclean's* he expects the country to be engulfed by widespread violence. It has happened before. Hundreds of thousands of people died in the bloody wake of a 1965 attempted coup that eventually brought Suharto to power. Those fears, echoed by officials in the region, led IMF managing director Michel Camdessus to take the rare step of criticizing Suharto publicly. Unless he undertakes domestic reforms, said Camdessus, "there is very little that we or anyone else can do for him."



Jakarta students protest, Suharto prays at Habibie's swearing-in (left) Asia-wide concern

Far from being chastened, Suharto pressed ahead with a controversial plan to peg the Indonesian currency to the U.S. greenback at the rate of 5,000 rupiah to the dollar. Last week, the exchange was 10,000 rupiah to the dollar. A peg would stabilize the currency for a short period, but IMF officials say that at just $16 billion, Indonesia's U.S. dollar reserves are too shallow to support the proposed currency board. As a result, speculators would soon drive the rupiah down again and set off another round of devaluations. In the weeks leading up to Suharto's election, U.S. President Bill Clinton phoned twice to try and talk him out of the currency board and even sent former vice-president Walter Mondale to Jakarta with the same message.

The IMF, which has agreed to pump $60 billion into Indonesia to help the government meet its debts, also threatened to withhold the latest $4-billion instalment on that money if Suharto went ahead. Later, however, the IMF softened its stance and said it may not entirely oppose the currency peg if other strict reforms are put into place. Broadfoot says IMF officials were worried that the impasse was threatening its entire Asian reform program. The fund will still insist, however, that Suharto collapse many of the family-controlled monopolies and end subsidies to industries. "It was a game of chicken with the IMF," said Joshua Mendelsohn, chief economist at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and an expert on the region. "The IMF decided to give in to get some of the other things it needs."

The IMF may have also decided that the peg is designed as much for politics as economics. Cynics note that raising the value of the currency, no matter how briefly, would allow Suharto's family to move their rupiah to a safe haven at a favorable rate. Many analysts believe Suharto will be eased out of office, perhaps within a year, and replaced either by an army leader or someone else in the ruling elite. Broadfoot doubts he will be toppled in a popular uprising. "In the end," he says, "Suharto will either leave on his own or be forced out."

Proponents argue that the currency board would stabilize soaring prices, assuming it worked. The political concern is palpable. Street protests are mounting, and analysts believe they will only worsen as jobs disappear and inflation races on. In many towns, looters have attacked shops owned by the Chinese minority, which controls much of the country's wealth. Some rural peasants have already tried to flee by boat to Malaysia, and officials in neighboring countries fear there could be a refugee surge. Before the crisis began, a stock boy in Jakarta earned about 10,000 rupiah a day, which at the time was worth $7. But last week, the combination of pay cuts and currency devaluations had reduced his pay to the equivalent of just $1.41 a day.

The middle class is also suffering. Abdul Hakim's family in the West Java town of Bandung owns a Kijang—a popular minivan made by Toyota. But now, he says, "we can't afford to run it." Ann Thomson, a Canadian who runs the Indonesian branch of Care Canada in Jakarta, says families now must budget up to 80 per cent more for food. Even foreign business people have trouble keeping up with the constant price increases, says William Burton, vice-president of exploration for International Pursuit Inc., a Toronto-based gold mining company that is drilling in Indonesia. "There are quotas on food and fuel," says Burton. "Some days, it is difficult to acquire goods because prices are fluctuating by the day."

The rising uncertainty comes just as other countries in the region are making fragile progress. Unlike Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea have taken such tough steps as letting corporations go bankrupt, changing labor laws to let companies lay off workers and allowing foreign companies to take over domestic firms. "Their currencies have stabilized," says Patricia Croft, vice-president and portfolio manager with Sceptre Investment Counsel Ltd. in Toronto which invests in the region, "but it could be two or three years before economic production comes back." Last week, citing a need for political unity to rebuild the economy, new South Korean President Kim Dae Jung released 2,300 political prisoners and granted amnesty to 5.5 million Koreans for offences ranging from speeding tickets to visiting North Korea illegally.

Korea, however, remains vulnerable to Jakarta's troubles, since Korean banks have lent heavily to Indonesian business. China and Japan could also be caught up in the turmoil if it triggers new currency devaluations. China is grappling with its own internal economic problems as it attempts to privatize hundreds of state-owned enterprises. At last week's National People's Congress, where economic czar Zhu Rongji took over as prime minister, officials said 3.5 million government workers could be laid off this year. Some analysts fear China might boost demand for its products and ease unemployment by devaluing its currency. Mendelsohn, however, believes Beijing will resist devaluation for at least 18 months. By waiting, he says, China will allow its neighbors to begin a recovery. Adds Mendelsohn: "They don't want to destabilize the region."

Japan is even less able to help propel the region out of its collapse. It is heading for its first recession in 23 years, and a widening corruption scandal in its finance ministry last week prompted the fourth suicide of a bureaucrat under investigation in recent months. Yet Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto left those problems behind and travelled to Jakarta, where he joined the Western chorus urging Suharto to accept the IMF reforms. It is unclear if the enigmatic strongman was listening. But to worried regional leaders, he holds the key to whether Asia emerges from crisis—or is engulfed by a new one.

With JENNY GRANT in Jakarta

HELP CONSERVE CANADA'S WETLANDS THROUGH CANADA'S CONSERVATION CREDIT CARD.



Every purchase you make with your credit card will provide support for Canadian conservation initiatives through Ducks Unlimited Canada. Please call the toll free number below for full details on this new credit card program. If you live in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan or Québec please call to receive an application through the mail.

1-800-416-6345

Use priority code AAML when you call

Ducks Unlimited Canada

MBNA Canada Bank is an affiliate with MBNA America Bank, N.A. MasterCard is a federally registered trademark of MasterCard International Inc. MBNA America is a registered trademark of MBNA America Bank, N.A. Ducks Unlimited logo and name are registered trademarks of Ducks Unlimited Canada.



EXPRESS NEWS/ARCHIVE PHOTOS

William (left), Charles and Harry in Switzerland in January: heading for Vancouver next week

Downsizing royalty

BY BARRY CAME

In the forecourt of Buckingham Palace, under a leaden London sky, Queen Elizabeth II is doing what she does best. A matronly figure in a sombre suit and beribboned hat, the British monarch bestows a regal smile upon a Malaysian athlete while extending a gloved hand bearing a gold-and-silver baton. The young relay runner, who will carry the Queen's baton on the first leg of its journey to next September's Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, bows deeply. So do the rest of the Malaysian and British athletes gathered outside the Palace as they, in turn, meet the Queen. There is, however, one notable exception. English middle-distance runner Kelly Holmes pointedly declines to curtsy, standing erect in her track suit when she greets the monarch. "Pity about that," sniffs bystander Anthony Hudson, himself a former "Blues" officer, a member of the Queen's Household Cavalry. Raising a disdainful eyebrow, he adds: "It's the modern monarchy, don't you know. Bowing and curtsying is definitely on the way out."

And much more besides. Britain's Royal Family, in fact, is in the throes of change, engendered in large part by the battering inflicted on the House of Windsor's public image in the wake of the death of Diana, the Princess of Wales, last August. The pressure is coming both from within, fuelled by Prince Charles, and from without, led by Prime Minister Tony Blair, who is intent on "modernizing" all of Britain's institutions, not least the venerable monarchy. Where it will all lead is currently the subject of widespread debate, some of it acrimonious. But Canadians may catch a glimpse of the emerging style next week when Charles and his two sons—Princes William, 15, and Harry, 13—arrive in British Columbia. The 49 year-old heir to the throne is a firm advocate of something Blair likes to call a "people's monarchy"—simpler, smaller and less ritualized.

Charles backs 'the people's monarchy'

Telltale signs are already beginning to appear. When Holmes declined to curtsy last week, she was merely following a trend initiated by the Queen herself. Late last month, her private secretary wrote to all the Lord Lieutenants, the monarch's representatives in the United Kingdom's counties, reminding them that bowing and curtsying were optional, rather than mandatory, in the presence of a member of the Royal Household.

It is not just a matter of pomp and circumstance, however. In more practical terms, the Queen has already moved to trim the Palace's $45-million annual transport bud

Eyes on safety

At CN we're always looking for new ways to make the safest mode of transportation in the world safer still. And it shows.

A world leader in the use of next generation safety-enhancing technology, CN developed TEST cars to measure the effects that heavy trains, moving at high speeds, have on tracks.

We also pioneered the use of rail flaw detection cars that now inspect every inch of CN rail along main core routes. Using ultrasonic technology, these testing systems can detect minute, internal flaws that are invisible to the naked eye. By replacing defective rails immediately, we've seen rail flaw failures decrease by more than 60% in just one year.

CN keeps an equally watchful eye on rolling stock. Impact detectors scan freight car wheels for defects, while sensors all across the main line watch for overheated bearings and wheels as well as dragging equipment. 24 hours a day, every day.

Of course, we won't stop there. Because at CN we always have our eyes on safety—yours, ours, our customers'.



CN

www.

get Last December, the Royal Family's cherished but costly yacht, Britannia, was retired The Royal Train, a $4 6-million a year expense, is about to follow suit Later this month, the Palace will take delivery of a new Sikorsky helicopter on lease from a private contractor, who is also supplying the aircrew It will replace the two Royal Air Force Wessex helicopters once flown and maintained exclusively for the Royal Household by the Queen's Flight, an RAF unit that has now been disbanded

More such economy measures are on the way A series of judiciously leaked reports last week disclosed that The Way Ahead Group, a committee of senior Royal Family members and ranking courtiers, had recently met in their first conclave since Diana's death The group is actively considering a host of internal reforms all geared to cutting costs and refurbishing the Royal Family s tarnished image It has even hired a firm of executive headhunters to find a "director of communications," in effect providing the House of Windsor with its first spin doctor It also approved a recent change making the heir to the throne the monarch's eldest child—of either sex

Two factors appear to be fuelling royal anxieties. The first is a recent public opinion survey commissioned by the Palace which suggested that the public viewed the Royal Family as "too large" and "too wasteful." Equally important are impending, once-a-decade negotiations over the Civil List, the arrangement by which the British Treasury currently funds $18 million in royal expenses each year Only three royals are actually paid by the Treasury the Queen, Prince Philip and the Queen Mother Prince Charles is financially independent, thanks to revenues from the property-rich Duchy of Cornwall All other royals are funded by the Queen out of her own purse But once Civil List discussions begin later this year for the 10-year period starting in 2001, the whole issue of the monarchy's costs is likely to be dragged into public debate.

The reformers want a streamlined Royal Family

To pre-empt criticism, the modernizing faction within the Royal Family, led by Charles, wants to have in place a streamlined, slimmed-down Household That is not good news for scores of regal cousins the so-called "minor royals." Many are likely to lose their security escorts, saving the taxpayer some $70 million annually. A few could lose their homes if Kensington Palace, where many now live, is turned into a museum There is even a suggestion that the two daughters of Prince Andrew and the Duchess of York, better known as Sarah Ferguson, could lose their Royal Highness titles.

Prince William and brother Harry are unlikely to face such unsettling changes In fact, for all the official concern about shielding them from a prying media, they have probably become the most appealing part of the post-Diana Royal Family So interest will be high in their Easter break trip to Vancouver, beginning on March 23. During the two-day official portion, Charles will visit senior citizens, drop in at a suburban high school and take a helicopter tour of a planned island park But the Palace has left open which functions the princes might attend Afterwards the two, who are avid skiers and snowboarders, will join their father for a private holiday, probably at Whistler ski resort north of Vancouver In form, the Vancouver visit may still look like a lot of previous royal trips But as the royal downsizing proceeds, the style of the monarchy is likely to be very different by the time William ascends the throne

With JENNIFER HUNTER in Vancouver

WHEN FAMILY BUSINESS BECOMES THE MOST IMPORTANT BUSINESS OF ALL.

When the future of a family's wealth becomes the first order of business, that is when many families come to Connor Clark Private Trust

Connor Clark Private Trust is a multi-disciplinary practice of senior level professionals.

Together, we provide a highly personalized and uniquely comprehensive wealth management service



With one of our Principals acting much like a chief financial officer to the family we can help you integrate all the key areas of your family s financial affairs including investment management, taxation and succession

To learn more about our services please come in and meet with one of our Principals

It might be just the right time for you

Connor Clark Private Trust

FAMILY WEALTH MANAGEMENT

1 800 567-0006 / WESTERN CANADA 1 800 563 0006

TORONTO • LONDON • KITCHENER • VANCOUVER



Thompson (left) and Travolta as the Stantons in **Primary Colors:** *a deliberate softening?*

The primary target

ANDREW PHILLIPS
IN WASHINGTON

In the beginning, there was Life: the messy but ultimately successful campaign by a morally ambiguous southern governor to become president of the United States Then came Art Imitating Life a shadowy writer known only as "Anonymous" slapped a veneer of fiction on the story and retold it as *Primary Colors*, the 1996 novel that became a surprising best-seller After that there was Life Imitating Art Imitating Life—Monica Lewinsky became a household name and the President's real-time existence was engulfed by the kind of "bimbo eruption" that plagued his campaign and spiced up the novel This week, things get even more complicated it's time for, yes, Art Imitating Life Imitating Art Imitating Life as *Primary Colors*, the movie based on the book, opens across North America. Already the pundits are asking: Will it hurt Bill Clinton? Will it help him? Where does fact end—and fiction begin? And can anyone tell anymore?

The book was a not-too-thinly-disguised assault on Clinton and the tortuous path that brought him to power. Anonymous was eventually unmasked as political writer Joe Klein, then of *Newsweek*, now of *The New Yorker* He created Jack Stanton, the seductive, slippery survivor from an unidentified southern state, and his Hillary-like wife, Susan *Primary Colors* was no paint-by-numbers job, but figures drawn from real life abounded Gennifer Flowers, the sometime lounge singer who claimed a 12-year affair with Clinton, became hairdresser Cashmere McLeod; Democratic strategist James Carville appeared as trash-talking Richard Jemmons Betsey Wright, the Clinton ultra-loyalist whose job as campaign "dust buster" was to clean up Bill's moral messes, came disguised as raging lesbian Libby Holden *Primary Colors* made Klein rich propelled by the who-wrote-it guessing game it sold 1 2 million copies —and counting

Art imitates Clinton in a new movie

Primary Colors the movie—which opens on March 20—is making him even richer Director Mike Nichols bought the idea for an initial $2 million and a deal that could net Klein even more But is the movie, a $90-million production, as tough on Clinton as the novel? Some believe not—and the President's cozy relationship with Hollywood suggests some of the reasons Nichols and his script-writing partner, ex-wife Elaine May, performed at a 1992 Hollywood fund-raiser for Clinton Nichols and his current wife, Diane Sawyer of ABC Television, hobnob with Bill and Hillary during summers on Martha's Vineyard Billy Bob Thornton of *Sling Blade* fame, a strong Clinton supporter, agreed to play the Carville/Jemmons role only after clearing it through fellow Arkansan Harry Thomason, one of the President's closest friends, who in turn checked with the White House "I would never do anything to hurt him," Thornton told an interviewer "He's been so good to me "

But what really fed the notion that the President's Hollywood cronies had managed to turn an anti-Clinton book into a soft-focus pro-Clinton film was the curious relationship between the White House and John Travolta Nichols signed Travolta to play Stanton before the actor had ever met Clinton Last April, they came together at a meeting on volunteerism in Philadelphia, and the President apparently worked his magic. As Travolta has recounted the story, Clinton knew exactly what button to push he offered to help Travolta in his campaign against the German government's alleged persecution of Scientology Travolta, a devoted Scientologist, was smitten—even more so when Clinton arranged for the actor and several other Scientologists to meet with his national security adviser, Sandy Berger, at the White House in September At the height of the Iraq crisis last month, Berger found himself being asked on national television was it all part of a plan to make sure the movie paints a favorable picture of the President?

Of course not, Berger replied. And intrigue aside, the real unknown is how a movie that shines a bright light on Clinton's seamier side will be received now—as a true-life scandal that is barely into Act 2 unfolds in Washington fn the novel, Jack Stanton as sketched by Klein was a mesmerizing but repellent character The best that could be said of him was that he was doing what had to be done to get where he wanted to go "Only certain kinds of people are cut out for this work —and, yeah, we are *not* princes, by and large," he tells his young campaign aide, Henry Burton, who is seduced politically by Stanton and physically by his wife (played by Emma Thompson) in a scene that was filmed, but in the end not included in the movie

It's not a pretty picture—but the logic of fiction meant that readers had to *imagine* Stanton, and that opened up space between the character and Clinton himself. The movie, whatever its creators intend, may close that gap in a way that sets off shudders in the White House. Travolta streaked his hair grey, put on almost 20 lb , and studied tapes of Clinton on the campaign trail to get the role right On screen, the actor mimics the President right down to his lust for apple fritters The question is will viewers warm to this pulp fiction and the man it portrays, or be further repelled by the pulpy reality it so uncomfortably echoes? □



While we can't help you out with the daily grind, your daily commute is about to take one serious turn for the better. Say hello to the newest member of your management team – road management, that is. The Nissan Maxima with its award-winning VQ30 V6 engine. Take our SE model, for instance. With patented Multi-Link Beam suspension, ABS, dual airbags, analogue white-faced gauges and 16" aluminum wheels, the 1998 Maxima is one luxury sedan engineered to remind even the most hardened executive that the drive to work can – in fact *should* – be a labour of love.



Life is a journey.

NISSAN

Enjoy the ride.

Smart people always read the fine print. And they always wear their seatbelts. For more information call 1 800 387 0122 or visit our Web site at www.nissancanada.com

World NOTES

WEST BANK VIOLENCE

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called on the international community to intervene after Israeli soldiers shot and killed three Palestinian laborers at a checkpoint, setting off five days of violent protests. More than 80 people were injured during the clashes, including one man whose hands were blown off by what Israeli officials described as a terrorist bomb left on a park bench.

HOPE FOR ULSTER

British Prime Minister Tony Blair said a framework for peace in Northern Ireland could be reached by Easter. Gerry Adams, leader of the Irish Republican Army's political wing, was set to rejoin talks after an 18-day expulsion, triggered when police linked two killings to the IRA. Any peace agreement would go to a referendum in May in both Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

PILOT ERROR

A U.S. military investigation found the pilot and crew of a Marine Corps jet responsible for snapping a gondola cable in Cavalese, Italy, last month, sending 20 skiers to their deaths. A senior official said the marines "aggressively manoeuvred their aircraft," flying too fast and below the 615-m minimum height when they hit the cables at between 111 and 113 m.

MONTAND'S REMAINS

Outrage erupted in France after authorities dug up the remains of actor Yves Montand in order to test his DNA for a paternity suit. Montand refused the test while he was alive and fought a 1989 suit by Aurore Drossard, who claims she is his daughter. In 1994—three years after his death—a court ruled in her favor. Now at stake, in an appeal by Montand's family, is her portion of his $5.2-million estate.

CLOSING IN ON SALINAS

Authorities investigating the source of $169 million held in Swiss bank accounts said they had amassed proof that Raul Salinas de Gortari, brother of former Mexican president Carlos Salinas de Gortari, received tens of millions of dollars from Colombian drug traffickers. Raul Salinas, already in jail in Mexico on murder conspiracy charges, has denied receiving drug payments. The investigators said no evidence implicated Carlos Salinas.



JAIME ARZUBIAGA/AFP

HARSH WELCOME: Members of Chile's Senate hold photos of some of the 3,000 people who disappeared or died during the 17-year dictatorship of Gen. Augusto Pinochet, shortly before Pinochet entered the chamber last week as a senator for life. Amid street protests, Pinochet, 82, joined the upper house following his tearful retirement as head of the military after 24 years. His transition, which includes immunity from prosecution, was part of a constitutional deal that transferred power to a democratically elected government in 1990.

Jones and Clinton face off

Lawyers for Paula Jones accused President Bill Clinton of making sexual advances against a series of women and engaging in a "vast enterprise to suppress evidence." In 700 pages of legal papers submitted as part of Jones's sexual harassment lawsuit against Clinton, her lawyers named five other women they said were targets of unwanted advances by Clinton. And, they claimed, Clinton and his aides punished women who rejected him and rewarded those who went along or kept quiet. Jones claims that Clinton, while governor of Arkansas in 1991, exposed himself to her in a hotel room and asked for oral sex. She says that as a state employee she suffered from job discrimination after she declined.

Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett, dismissed Jones's claims as a "pack of lies" inspired by right-wingers who are "trying to hound him out of office." In his countersubmission, Bennett said Jones had failed to show she suffered any harm following the incident, and asked that her suit be dismissed. In a boost for the President, David Brock, the reporter who wrote the original story accusing him of having Arkansas state troopers solicit women for him, said some of the claims were false and apologized to the President. Brock's article in *The American Spectator* referred to a woman named Paula—prompting Jones to sue.

Kosovo buries its dead as sanctions bite

Amid bitter cold, ethnic Albanian men in Serbia's southern Kosovo province painstakingly removed bodies from wooden coffins dumped in a mass grave hastily dug by Serbian forces after a crackdown on separatists that killed 80 people. The Albanians, who make up 90 per cent of the local population, then reburied 50 victims—including several children—in the Muslim tradition. Three Belgrade officials arrived in Pristina, Kosovo's capital, with an invitation for talks, but Albanian leaders rejected it as "a farce." As Washington pushed for a UN arms embargo for the region, Canada joined other Western countries in imposing limited sanctions on Yugoslavia.



Bouchard (centre) and Tobin (right) try to evade protesters: 'a free country'

CHRIS WATTIE

Business

Megawatt ambitions

A new deal may settle old wars

BY BRIAN BERGMAN

After meeting last week with Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard in Labrador to announce a deal that could create one of the largest hydroelectric projects in the world, Newfoundland Premier Brian Tobin was back in St John's doing what he does best: spinning and selling. A televised address to the province, a two-hour stint on an open-line radio program and a rousing, unscripted speech to the St. John's Board of Trade all formed part of the promotional pageant. To all who would listen, the premier's message was simple and upbeat: the $11.8-billion project on the Churchill River promised to pour a torrent of dollars into Newfoundland coffers, redressing the inequities of a 1969 pact with Quebec over a hydro development on the same watercourse. And as if that were not enough, Tobin claimed the deal also struck a point for national unity. Recalling how discussions with Quebec's separatist premier began during a First Ministers' trade mission to Asia 14 months ago, Tobin told *Maclean's*: "After 30 years of bitter history, two provinces found common cause on a Team Canada mission. Frankly, I love the symbolism."

Tobin's chipper words aside, there remain daunting hurdles to overcome if the premier's power play is to become a reality by 2007, the target completion date. The Innu, who have occupied the area around Churchill Falls for centuries, vowed last week to use civil disobedience and the courts to block any further development. The federal cabinet, already under pressure from Newfoundland to provide millions more dollars to unemployed fishermen, cast a wary eye on Tobin's request that Ottawa fund an 800-megawatt, $2.2-billion undersea transmission line between Labrador and the island portion of Newfoundland. But even if Ottawa and the Innu are brought onside, the megaproject will fly or founder according to two very fickle masters: the financial markets, where capital for the development will be raised, and world energy prices, which will determine its ultimate profitability. And despite rosy assurances from project proponents, many independent analysts warn that troubles loom ahead. "It's a very risky deal," says Philippe Dunsky, director of Helios Centre, a Montreal-based energy think-tank. "The problem with megaprojects is that you have to base a major investment decision looking 10 years in advance."

There is nothing in what Tobin and Bouchard announced last week that is legally binding on either of their governments. But they did detail the objectives for a final agreement that could be signed by the end of this year. The major elements of the deal include a $3.2-billion dam on Gull Island Rapids on the Lower Churchill, $3 billion worth of new transmission lines in Labrador and Quebec, and a $1.3-billion expansion of the existing hydroelectric site on the Upper Churchill. Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro would own 65.8 per cent of the new developments, the other 34.2 per cent being held by Hydro Quebec. And, in what Tobin characterized as a key concession, Hydro Québec will guarantee to buy the new Churchill Falls power at a still-to-be-negotiated minimum price, but the maximum price for the electricity will be set by the marketplace. As well, Hydro Quebec will absorb the cost of constructing the new overland transmission lines.

One other crucial—but still tentative—part of the deal, is the proposal to place four submarine cables under the 20 km Strait of Belle Isle to finally connect the island portion of Newfoundland to the North American power grid. Due to the threat of scouring by icebergs, the technology involved is costly, and Newfoundland cannot afford to pay for it alone. Tobin is asking Ottawa for financial support—offering in return to help Canada live up to its commitments under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol on greenhouse gas emissions (page 40). The protocol commits Ottawa to reduce such emissions to 1990 levels by 2010, and Tobin argues the low-polluting Labrador hydro energy would do just that.

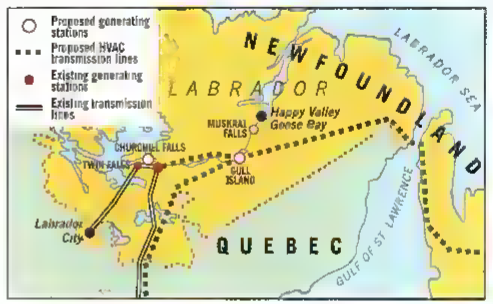
A senior aide to federal Energy Minister Ralph Goodale conceded last week that Tobin—a former federal cabinet minister who knows his way around the nation's capital—was astute in making his pitch. But the federal Liberals are clearly leery of revisiting the era of massive, tax-supported energy developments. "We are not," said the aide, "in the business of funding megaprojects." So far, all Ottawa has agreed to is a feasibility study of the link.

Lurking behind the scenes last week, like the ghost of Hamlet's father, was the infamous 1969 pact reached between former Newfoundland premier Joey Smallwood and his Quebec counterpart, Jean-Jacques Bertrand. At the time, Quebec refused to provide a right-of-way to allow Labrador power to reach markets in New England. That set the stage for a spectacularly one-sided deal, in force until 2041, under which Newfoundland must sell Churchill Falls power to Hydro Quebec at a predetermined low price, while Quebec is free to resell the power to American buyers for whatever the market will bear. The ink had barely dried on the deal when the Middle East energy crisis and galloping inflation caused prices to soar. The result, according to Newfoundland government estimates, was a $14-billion windfall for Quebec between 1976 and 1995, while Newfoundland made do with $2 billion in net profit.

Successive Newfoundland premiers demanded Quebec reopen the Churchill pact, but to no avail. Two Supreme Court challenges by Newfoundland were rebuffed, with the province being told, in essence, that a contract is a contract. Bouchard said much the same thing when Tobin first took up the cause in a series of cross-Canada speeches in the fall of 1996. In those addresses, Tobin urged Quebec to renegotiate the pact out of a sense of common decency. He also hinted darkly that he was prepared to shut off the power if the Quebec government refused to bend.

Following Tobin's tub-thumping, some Quebec businessmen, including Jacques Lamarre, president of the influential engineering firm SNC-Lavalin Group Inc., began to urge the two provinces to settle their differences and pursue mutually beneficial developments on the Lower Churchill. During private talks on a Team Canada trade mission to South Korea, the Philippines and Thailand in January, 1997, Bouchard and Tobin began to do just that. As Tobin tells it, the two leaders started "talking *to* each other rather than *at* each other." More than a year later, the deal that emerged leaves the original Churchill contract largely intact. But it gives Newfoundland far more generous terms on the second phase of development.

In fact, as he made the media rounds last week, Tobin could barely disguise his glee. At a meeting with the editorial board of the St. John's *Evening Telegram*, he boasted that "this is the Upper Churchill deal in reverse." He quickly added that both sides have much to gain from a deal.



That was more in keeping with the official pronouncements by Hydro Quebec. The giant utility maintains that, because of low generating costs at the new Churchill site, it will be able to deliver power to the United States at 4.2 cents per kilowatt hour—well below the 5.7 cents that Hydro Quebec chairman Andre Caille says is the cheapest price in the offing from U.S. producers. "We're basing this strictly on a price approach," said Guy Versailles, a Hydro Quebec official, "and we know that if our price is right, the market will pay it." However, energy analyst Dunsky remains dubious. Taking into consideration current market prices, Dunsky believes Hydro Quebec's price forecasts are too optimistic. And while interest rates are currently low, financial conditions could easily change over the nine years of planned construction.

A more immediate challenge for both the Quebec and Newfoundland governments is the opposition of the Innu. Daniel Ashini, vice-president of Labrador's Innu Nation, says his people will not allow the new Churchill project to proceed until they receive an apology and compensation for the massive flooding that damaged their lands as a result of the original development 30 years ago. Their land claim, under negotiation since 1991, must also be settled. The Innu are already recruiting support from international environmental groups, and say that they will not hesitate to practise civil disobedience—both tactics that worked effectively for the James Bay Cree in killing the Great Whale hydro project in northern Quebec in the early 1990s. Until their demands are met, says Ashini, "We will do everything in our power to ensure that the Lower Churchill does not proceed. There's just too much at stake."

Bouchard and Tobin got a foretaste of what might lie ahead when 150 Innu protesters thwarted the premiers' plans to televise last week's announcement live across the nation. The natives blocked the road into Churchill Falls and occupied the building where TV cameras had been set up for the anticipated news conference. Tobin and Bouchard were forced to abandon a van in which they were riding and walk through a crowd of shouting Innu, before another vehicle carried them to a helicopter that bore them into town to meet reporters at a backup location. As the host premier, Tobin said afterwards that he regretted the disruption. But, he added, "It's a free country." The other obstacles facing his megawatt ambitions for Labrador's wilderness will not be so easy to sidestep.

With BRENDA BRANSWELL in Montreal and JOHN DEMONT in Ottawa

Pollution for sale

Emission credits could create a new market

Littered with the hulks of cannibalized cars, the auto wrecking yards that occupy much of Mitchell Island, a seedy industrial ghetto in the middle of the Fraser River south of Vancouver, paint a portrait of decay. But amid the abandoned autos, some of the country's largest energy producers sense opportunity. GEMCo, a Vancouver-based consortium of 11 oil, gas and electric companies, proposes to pay the auto wreckers tens of thousands of dollars a year to extract and recycle ozone destroying hydrofluorocarbon gas from the air conditioners in old cars. In return for keeping that greenhouse gas contained, GEMCo hopes its members will be allowed to continue releasing other pollutants into the atmosphere—using a system of transferrable credits for emission reduction. Says GEMCo's president, Aldyen Donnelly: "Market opportunity leads to a whole bunch of creativity."

This particular opportunity, however, is a gamble on the uncertain future for pollution credits. Companies that pollute could acquire credits—from an agency yet to be identified—by reducing their emissions below a level established by regulators. They could then sell the credits to other companies whose emissions exceed regulatory maximums. In theory, the market in credits would reward industries that clean up their act, while allowing those that cannot reduce emissions to carry on polluting without society as a whole exceeding global limits on greenhouse gases. Last December, international negotiators meeting in Kyoto, Japan, agreed to work out rules for a trading system in such credits by about 2000. But GEMCo is not alone in choosing to act before the details are all thrashed out.



Refinery in Sarnia, Ont., a silver lining for polluters

Along with companies in several countries, some governments are also busy devising schemes to profit from a market in pollution credits. Newfoundland, for one, hopes emission credits will help pay for part of its proposed $11.8-billion Churchill River hydro project. According to Premier Brian Tobin, Newfoundland would earn credits because pollution-free hydro power will replace electricity generated by burning coal and oil in the United States. Tobin proposes to sell the credits to help cover the $2.2-billion cost of building a transmission line from Labrador to the island of Newfoundland.

The proposal underscores the complexity of turning the concept of pollution-credit trading into a workable market. Environmentalists say deregulation makes it hard to trace where power goes and what it replaces. Moreover, even if clean Labrador hydro replaces dirtier coal-fired power, they argue that U.S. utilities are unlikely to turn any resulting credits over to Newfoundland. "We need to be cautious that there are all these wonderful credits out there, when in fact there are not," says Louise Comeau, an official with the Sierra Club of Canada who doubts that swapping pollution rights will achieve lower emissions. Adds Comeau: "These guys could just cook the books."

Groups like GEMCo are undeterred by such criticism. Like Tobin, Donnelly is willing to bet that the urgent need to cut the clouds of greenhouse gases being emitted by industry will eventually result in a silver lining for those who think ahead.

JOHN SCHOFIELD

CANADIAN COLLEGE ITALY



CANADA'S HIGH SCHOOL IN ITALY (Bursaries Available)

- High Academic Standard
- Co-ed semestered boarding school
- University preparation: advanced courses for entrance in North American's finest universities taught in English, grades 11 to high school graduation
- Medieval Lanciano on the Adriatic coast in central Italy is safe, quiet, utterly charming
- Exquisite college residences
- Expert qualified teaching staff
- State of the art science facilities
- Century-old art studios
- Supervised excursions to cities throughout Italy and Europe
- Study with the best of Europe and Canada in a culturally rich environment
- A unique educational experience that lasts a lifetime!

Tel (905) 508-7108 1-800-422-0548 Fax (905) 508-5480
e-mail: marisa.cci@sympatico.ca http://web.idirect.com/~cci/
Headmistress: Mrs. Janette Doupe
(former headmistress of Trafalgar School, Havergal College and St. Clement's School)



Opportunity has its rewards

The opportunity to build your own business can be rewarding in different ways to different people.

You set the goals, go your own pace, schedule your own time, and determine what you want in return. You can market as many, or as few, product lines as you choose — from personal care products to popular brand-name catalogue merchandise. More than 3 million entrepreneurs in some 80 countries and territories have found this business opportunity made possible only through Amway. Is worth a closer look. See for yourself. Perhaps *you* can discover the rewards you've been seeking.

Amway®
The Business Opportunity Company™

If you'd like to know more, call for a free brochure at 1-800-922-6929 or visit our website at www.amway.com. In the U.S., call 1-800-544-7167.

© 1997 Amway of Canada Ltd.

Internet Advertising DIRECTORY

ATLANTIC OPPORTUNITIES

Atlantic Canada Careers
http://www.acc.net
Tel: (902) 425-6555

The employment outlook in Atlantic Canada has never been more promising. From high-tech to oil and gas, we currently have over 80 careers listed. Check our website for good opportunities to "come home to".

BUYING AND SELLING ON-LINE

Drive On-Line ... A Smart Way to Buy a Car
www.driveonline.ca
e-mail: info@driveonline.ca

An ALL CANADIAN auto buying alternative. Get your next vehicle in less time, for less money and with a lot less hassle! Buy or lease any vehicle — new or used. Drive On Line is your one stop automobile source. Visit our site today!

EDUCATION

Baxter NET
http://www.baxter.net
e-mail: baxgroup@baxter.net

The Baxter Group's Web site is featuring TRAVEL UNIVERSE (http://www.baxter.net/travel_universe) with extensive travel-oriented contents, searchable database of travel agencies, destination, airlines, hotels and best buys. Also featured is Baxter's EduNET (http://www.baxter.net/edunet), a comprehensive Canadian on-line educational site.

Mount Royal College Distance Education—With Results In Mind! Calgary AB
http://www.mtroyal.ab.ca/programs/centrehs

Visit the Centre for Health Studies Web pages to learn about distance education opportunities in mental health and gerontology (1-800-240-6881), maternal infant, child care or forensic health studies (1-888-240-7201), or critical care nursing (1-888-240-7202). Online courses and certificates available. Study at a time and place convenient to you.

Sheridan College Full- and Part-time Studies
http://www.sheridanc.on.ca
infosheridan@sheridanc.on.ca
(905) 842-MFO (4636)

Invest in Yourself. Explore learning opportunities and request your free full- or part-time course calendar with hundreds of courses to choose from.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS IN CANADA

The Association of Ontario Land Surveyors
http://www.interlog.com/~aols
e-mail: aols@interlog.com
1-800-268-0718

The AOLS is the self-governing body for professional surveying in Ontario including Cadastral, Photogrammetry, Hydrography and Geodesy.

Quicken.ca
FINANCIAL NETWORK

Ensure you make informed financial decisions. For current, comprehensive and impartial financial information online, visit

www.quicken.ca

For more information please call: (416) 596-5811

Deirdre McMurdy



The Bottom Line

Rethinking regulation

It is hard to feel sorry for the Richest Man in America. But there is an element of pathos to Bill Gates's current dilemma. Accused of anti-competitive business practices by the U.S. justice department, the chairman of Microsoft is now the awkward star of a painfully transparent public relations campaign.

Over the past two months, in an effort to soften his image as an arrogant techno-nerd, Gates has bantered with Regis and Kathie Lee, sung *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* to Barbara Walters and chatted with classrooms full of children. During a visit to Washington earlier this month to testify before a special Senate committee investigating Microsoft, Gates posted his personal diary on the Internet. He scrupulously recorded such "real guy" events as ordering pizza.

> The notion of greater government supervision is regaining some respectability

But even if Gates reinvents his public persona, that is unlikely to silence his critics. After years of sermons from government and business about the virtues of unfettered, deregulated markets, many people are having sober second thoughts. As the controversy over Microsoft's overwhelmingly dominant Windows operating system for personal computers shows, the notion of greater government supervision of markets is regaining some respectability.

Deregulation gained popularity in part because bloated governments were eager to shed the cost of overseeing a broad range of industries. Over two decades, governments removed the shackles from telecommunications, airlines, railways and power utilities. It was assumed that once markets were open and some adjustments made, competition and time would take care of the rest.

It has not been that simple. In telecommunications, deregulation has been painful and costly. Although domestic long-distance telephone markets opened in 1992, the new players are still fighting for market share—and survival—against the former monopoly, Bell Canada.

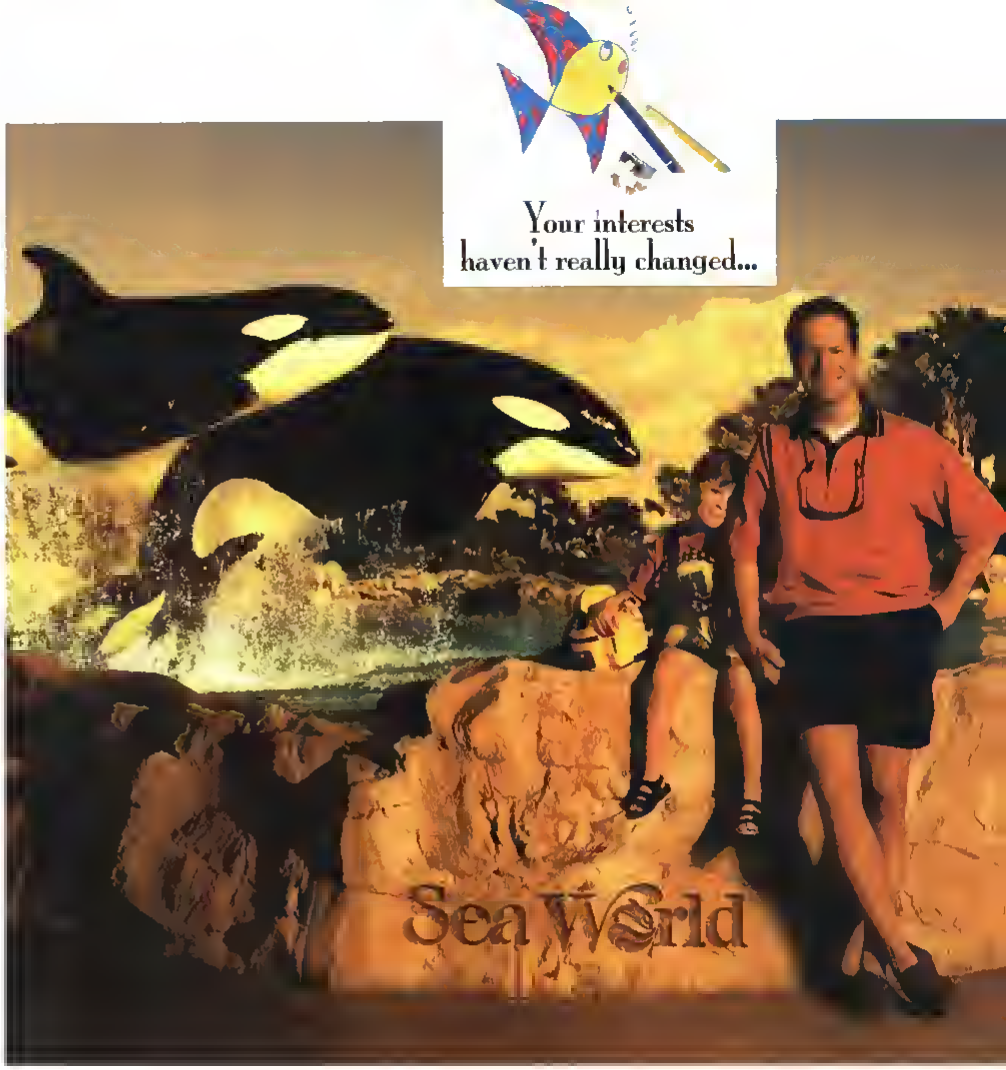
Things have also gone awry in the U.S. airline sector. Since the industry was left on its own, large airlines have become increasingly dominant. They routinely crush start-up ventures by blocking access to airports and temporarily slashing fares, use frequent-flier programs to ensure customer loyalty, and expand their size—and clout—through mergers, acquisitions and alliances. They have taken advantage of their muscle to jack up business-class fares by 38 per cent in the past two years alone. Twenty years after deregulation, Congress is now considering ways to restore balance.

Mergers and acquisitions have also consolidated power in emerging industries—like technology. Companies such as Microsoft routinely buy out smaller enterprises to acquire and integrate their innovations. Last year in California's Silicon Valley, eight times as many companies were sold to larger entities as went public.

The engineers who launch new ventures are partly to blame: they are often more interested in developing ideas than in management. But many high-tech entrepreneurs now create stand-alone divisions from the outset, with the goal of selling them off later to larger, more diverse entities, such as Microsoft.

That new reality is one reason why the traditional industrial approach to deregulation and competition policy may need to be adapted to be effective. Technology lends itself to the development and widespread adoption of industry standards. That, in turn, makes it easy for a single company—like Microsoft—to dominate a field. However, the same rapid evolution of technology tends to erode domination as quickly as it fosters it. Western Union's once-worrisome grip on the telegraph business, for example, was irrelevant after the advent of telephone technology.

Governments may once again be more willing to police the economy—with growing public support. And in a rapidly evolving business environment, those efforts need not alarm the private sector. Government might, at the very least, act as a good referee—one who knows when to call a time-out.



They've simply taken on greater proportions.

An extended credit limit and a wealth of exclusive financial advantages. MasterCard Gold. The flexibility you need now that you're looking at life through slightly wider eyes.



Admit it... you've changed just a little.

Putting vanity plates on it would be redundant.



There are cars in desperate need for some personality and then there's the Chrysler Sebring LXi Coupe. With a responsive 24-valve V6 and a double-wishbone suspension, it has "exhilerating" written all over it. Yet, it's also quite well-mannered. Thanks to a sleek design and an available leather trimed interior, not to mention a premium sound system available with eight Infinity™ speakers. To find out more call 1 800 361 3700 or visit www chryslercanada ca. You'll find you can't say enough about the Sebring. At least, not on your license plates.

SEBRING COUPE

Engineered for the way you live.

CHRYSLER CANADA

OFFICIAL TEAM SPONSOR

Business NOTES

A MUTUAL AFFAIR

Canada will have a new insurance giant by June 30, if regulators approve a $1.2-billion bid by Mutual Life of Canada of Waterloo, Ont., to buy the Canadian operations of New York City-based Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. The combined company would be the country's second-largest insurer, after Great-West Lifeco Inc. of Winnipeg, with nearly $50 billion in assets. But the merger will mean the loss of 1,100 jobs.

MORE ROOMS AT THE INN

Canadian Pacific Hotels Corp., owner of some of Canada's most venerable lodgings, including the Château Launer and Château Lake Louise, spent $94 million in cash to buy Delta Hotels & Resorts. The acquisition doubles CP Hotel's stock of rooms in Canada, to almost 22,000, and gives the firm entry into international markets including Cuba, where two of Delta's 34 owned or managed properties are located.

MARKET FOR MERGERS

The No. 2 and 3 U.S. stock exchanges revealed that they are in merger negotiations. The electronic Nasdaq exchange (owned by the National Association of Securities Dealers) is exploring union with the more traditional American Stock Exchange (Amex). A marriage of the two would pose a serious challenge to the leading U.S. securities market, the New York Stock Exchange.

CLIENT NAMES POSTED

The CIBC was forced to scramble, and apologize to customers, after an error posted the names and account numbers of 492 clients of the bank's investor's Edge discount brokerage unit, to all of their e-mail addresses. The bank, which blamed the snafu on "human error," said all affected clients would get new account numbers.

FARMER'S HEMP

A 60-year-old ban on the cultivation of hemp for fibre will be lifted this spring, allowing Canadian farmers to grow the plant, closely related to the cannabis strain more commonly known as marijuana, for the first time since 1938. Federal Health Minister Allan Rock said that his department will regulate the industry and issue permits to growers. Cannabis cultivated for fibre has only trace levels of the chemical—THC—that produces the high sought by those who smoke pot.

The OSC gets a reluctant boss



PHOTO: SUE DUMCLEAN'S

Brown: just what the government did not ask for

For 16 months, a committee seeking a new chairman for the Ontario Securities Commission looked high and low for a qualified individual who was *not* a securities lawyer. The reason: a desire to give the agency a strong, high-profile manager at the dawn of its transformation into a self-funding body financially independent of government. Then last week, Queen's Park announced the appointment of a new OSC chairman who is exactly what the committee tried so hard not to find. The job will go to David Brown of Davies Ward & Beck—one of Toronto's top corporate law firms. Brown, 58, is virtually unknown outside securities law circles, where he is a highly regarded specialist in corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions.

Brown was reluctant to say much about his plans for the understaffed and historically cash-strapped agency that monitors an estimated 80 per cent of the securities transactions in Canada. The veteran securities lawyer noted, however, that it took considerable effort by the committee to persuade him to accept the job, which pays $350,000 a year—a relatively modest sum for a major player on Bay Street. That may explain the committee's failure to attract the high-profile banking executive or corporate CEO that it and the Ontario government had originally sought.

Down to the wire

Wrangling continued as the clock ran down in the long-running battle for control of Safety-Kleen Corp. After shareholders of the Elgin, Ill.-based hazardous waste management company rejected an offer from Philip Services Corp. of Hamilton, Safety-Kleen's directors dropped a poison pill anti-takeover defence that had successfully stalled a rival bid by a South Carolina-based subsidiary of Laidlaw Inc. of Burlington, Ont. The board had favored Philip's all-cash offer over Laidlaw's bid—$18 a share in cash and $12 in stock—out of concern that the cash portion of the offer was too low. But even as the Illinois company's shareholders seemed ready to embrace Laidlaw's $2.8-billion offer despite the board's opposition, the apparently successful suitor warned that it was prepared to take Safety-Kleen's directors to court, if necessary, if they did not extend the poison-pill waiver to allow Laidlaw to acquire late-tendered shares.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

An ongoing job boom in Ontario, coupled with a rebound in Quebec hiring after January's ice storm, pushed the unemployment rate last month down to 8.6 per cent from 8.9 per cent in January. Youth unemployment dropped a full percentage point, to 15.5 per cent. About two-thirds of the new jobs—84,000 positions—were full time.

The market for new homes also showed signs of heating up. After a sluggish January, new housing starts reached an annual rate of 157,200 in February, the highest level in a year. However, sales of new vehicles in January dropped a whopping 27 per cent from December. The decline was blamed partly on the ice storm and the end of generous incentives, which had helped boost year-end car sales.

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH



SOURCE: BANK OF MONTREAL

"The labor force turned in remarkable growth of 0.3 per cent in February after 0.4 per cent in January. That represents more than half of the growth we saw all last year in just the past two months."
—Scotia Capital Markets

"Overall new vehicle sales are still 0.7 per cent above year-earlier levels. However, most of the strength lies in truck sales. Sales of North American-made cars have slumped 11.9 per cent year over year, while imports are up a strong 31.6 per cent."
—Nesbitt Burns



Peter C. Newman

An unlikely effort to soothe B.C. business

British Columbia politics has always been a swamp. In most jurisdictions, provincial politicians ride the hurricane of changing public opinion by tailoring policy and legislation to solidify their hold on some sort of middle ground. Not in British Columbia.

There is no middle ground.

Local academics speculate that it's because the province's farming population is too small to cast an ameliorating influence on the politics of confrontation. A more likely explanation is that the polarization was imported from other places. An inordinate number of the province's early union leaders emigrated from Scotland and brought their Clydeside mentality with them. Their agendas—there and here—were pegged on waging class warfare. Monocled industrialists were exploiters whose power had to be destroyed; the working stiffs, meanwhile, were meant to be revolutionaries and overthrow the system.

Instead of creating a workers' paradise, Canada's militant unions spawned the NDP, which in British Columbia has been in power since 1991 and presided over the disintegration of the provincial economy. There was a time, not so long ago, when B.C. business was based almost entirely on the sea and the woods. Harvesting fish and timber provided most of the activity and nearly all of the employment. This year, out of a working population of 1.8 million, only 95,000 still find jobs in the forest industries, the number of fishers is no more than 7,000—and that includes part-timers. Those figures, when compared with such a non-essential industry as making Hollywood films, show the extent of the drop in traditional employment. Last year, film-makers spent $615 million in the province, employing 19,000 people in the process. The tourist industry, which is where the province's only major real growth has been, employs nearly 225,000, but many of the jobs are strictly minimum wage.

> Glen Clark's NDP government will bring in a budget that will maintain the polarization in the Pacific province

At a conference last week attended by the CEOs of the province's leading forest companies, they agreed that sales will drop another $1 billion this year to $15.1 billion, following a similar decline in 1997. George Richards of Weldwood of Canada made the point that none of his fellow CEOs are willing to try to convince their boards of directors to invest any more money in British Columbia. Total capital investment in the province will increase by a paltry 1.3 per cent this year, compared with a national average of 6.2 per cent. Jack Munro, speaking for the management-friendly Forest Alliance, put it more succinctly: "Business isn't even investing their goddamn depreciation, for Christ's sake."

This is the context for Premier Glen Clark's current crusade to defang the business community's criticism of his anti-business regime. The inside story is that Andrew Petter, Clark's original minister of finance, got religion and began to agree with emissaries from the Vancouver business community, who were urging him to balance the books. Clark disagreed and replaced Petter with loyalist Joy MacPhail. The premier has been meeting with such members of the local establishment as Tom Stephens, the Memphis good ol' boy brought in to run MacMillan Bloedel; Wendy McDonald, the feisty lady who heads B.C. Bearing Engineers; Youssef Nasr, the new CEO at the Hongkong Bank of Canada; and Jimmy Pattison, easily Vancouver's most influential business presence. The conversation is always the same: the premier says he is looking for "validation." That's his fancy word for asking the business community to either praise his government or at least to shut up when MacPhail brings in its budget next month. The expectation is that Clark will bring in measures that will please but not satisfy them.

The business community's reply is that you must earn our praise or silence, and that means action in three areas:

1) reduce high-bracket personal taxes and drop the province's controversial 0.3-per-cent capital tax on corporations.

2) reduce government spending in a meaningful way. (Your fellow NDPers in Saskatchewan have closed 53 hospitals—you haven't closed any.)

3) reduce the deficit. British Columbia now is one of five provinces (the others are Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and P.E.I.) that are spending more than they're taking in.

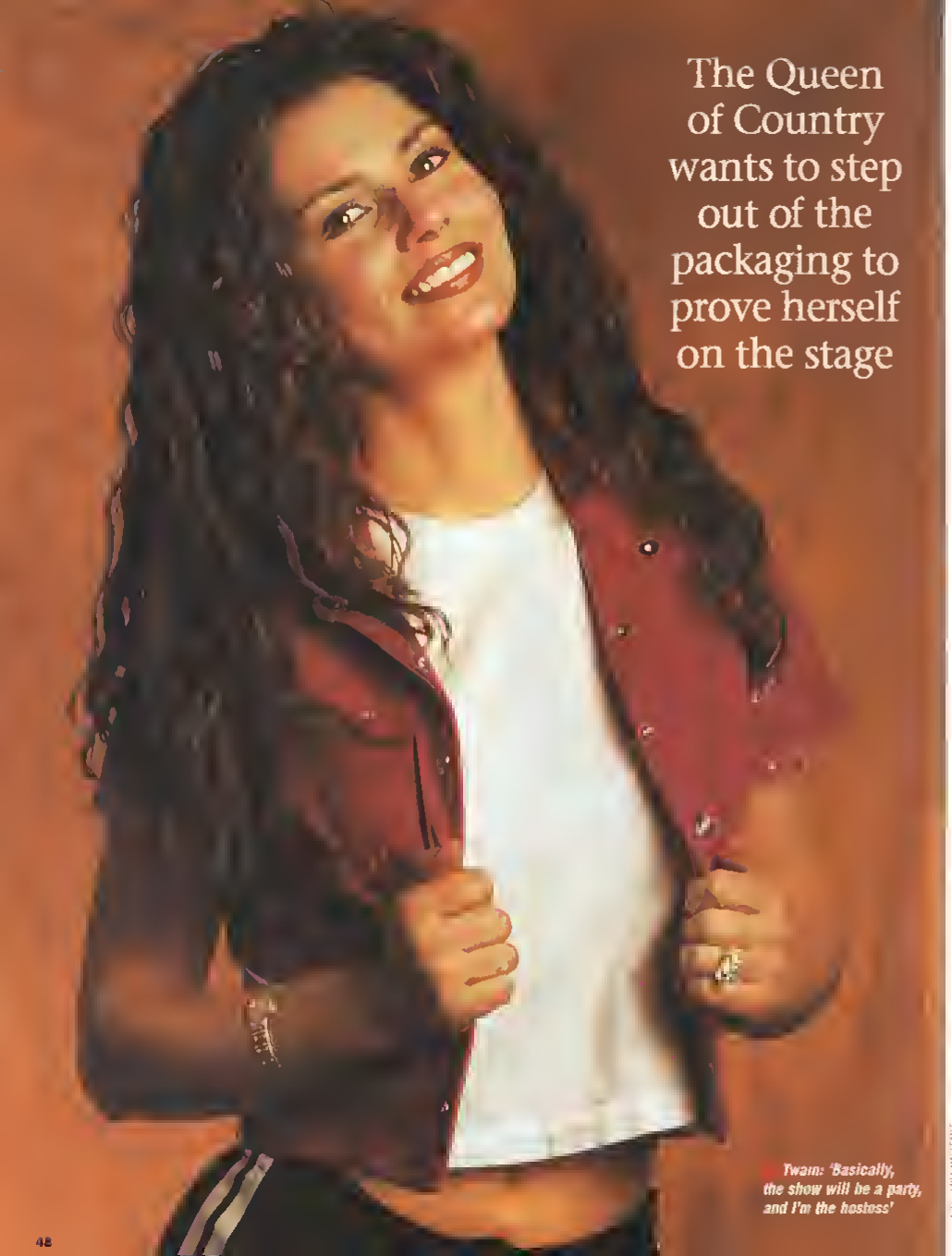
"The business community in Vancouver," I was told last week by Bob Fairweather, chair of the Vancouver Board of Trade, "is in complete agreement that the government must balance the budget, cut expenses and reduce taxes."

A significant factor in the B.C. slowdown is the absence of new Asian investment. The Oriental presence in Vancouver has been overwhelming—a high-quality eyeglass boutique on Robson, the main shopping street, has a small sign in its window that boasts, "We speak English!" The dramatic drop in Asian economic activity is being blamed on the fact that most of that region's economies are in a free fall. But it was Ottawa's insistence on assessing overseas trusts that really drove out the money. It has left a big hole.

Glen Clark's problems with the business community aren't unique. One of his predecessors, Bill Bennett, when he was Social Credit premier in the early 1980s, established something called the Top 20 Club to try to bring Vancouver's business elite onside. This was a curious and not very effective undertaking, especially when the 60 CEOs who attended discovered that the "20" in the group's title referred to the number of swing ridings Bennett figured he had to win in the election.

Clark has the same problem. Politics and business don't mix in this Pacific province. And the civil war that divides them is not about to be resolved.





The Queen of Country wants to step out of the packaging to prove herself on the stage

Twain: 'Basically, the show will be a party, and I'm the hostess'

PHOTO: JOHN MACLEAN'S

COVER

Shania Revealed

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

They are lining up to meet her in the flesh. Hundreds of broadcasters, delegates to a country radio conference, have gathered for a party at the new Planet Hollywood in Nashville. In a room ringed with buffet tables, some queue up for Cajun shrimp, but the major feeding frenzy is around Canadian country star Shania Twain. She is not singing; she is signing autographs and posing for snapshots while a video of her song *Don't Be Stupid* plays on the wall behind her. The broadcasters so eager to meet her are professional fans, fans with influence. And Twain greets them with professional warmth. A hundred handshakes. A hundred autographs. A hundred point-and-shoot smiles. And, with each click of the shutter, a hundred strange hands clasped around her famous midriff. Every so often, like a boxer rehydrating between rounds, Twain turns to her makeup artist, Daisy, who holds up a bottle of water for her to sip through a straw. Finally, after more than an hour, Twain's handlers whisk her upstairs. In the elevator, the star holds out her hands. Daisy, who knows the drill, produces some wet wipes and scrubs them clean.

Later, in a roped-off VIP area upstairs, Twain sits for a moment before resuming the "meet and greet" ritual with another echelon of fandom—employees of her own record company. Does it not all start to seem absurd after a while? Twain fields the question with a puzzled look. "Not really," she says. "It's just part of it now. And people who want to meet you usually get some pleasure out it. It's nice. It's a nice exchange."

Nice. For the reigning queen of country music, playing the girl next door to throngs of strangers has become second nature. Country singers, like TV soap stars and politicians, are still expected to service the fan base in person. Up close, Shania Twain loses none of her radiance; she has the sort of star power that people expect from royalty. And part of the magic is a life story that reads like a fairy tale—Cinderella meets Bambi in the Canadian bush. A country girl from Timmins, Ont., is raised dirt poor, starts performing in bars as a child, loses her parents at 22 when their car collides with a logging truck, sings to support her three teenage siblings, then finds her prince—reclusive rock producer Robert John (Mutt) Lange—who gives her a studio kiss of stardom and a 2.5-carat diamond.

It is a story that occasionally threatens to veer into melodrama. Twain has had to fend off media controversy over her adoptive native heritage, and early rumors of trouble in her marriage to Lange. But although their careers often keep them apart, producer and star now appear to be living happily ever after. They call home a 1,200-hectare retreat with a private lake in upstate New York. And last week, Twain told *Maclean's* that they are seriously thinking of moving to Europe. They have begun looking for a house in the Swiss countryside.

Eileen Regina Twain—who rechristened herself Shania seven years ago—has certainly fulfilled the promise of her name, which means "I'm on my way" in Ojibwa. Now 32, she has sold more albums than any female country singer in history. Breaking a record that it took Patsy Cline 40 years to set, her 1995 CD *The Woman in Me* has attained sales of 12 million copies worldwide—two million of them in Canada alone. Twain's new album, *Come on Over*, which is nominated for three awards at this Sunday's Junos in Vancouver, has sold 4.2 million after just five months of release. And what is remarkable is that Twain has done it all without performing live. Instead, she has spent the past three years working as an indefatigable publicity machine—parading through talk shows, shopping malls and radio stations from Alberta to Australia.

Now, however, Twain is finally ready to hit the stage. She has put together a nine-piece band, and plans to launch a tour of Canadian hockey arenas on May 29 with a two-night stand in Sudbury, Ont., followed by a swing through Edmonton, Saskatoon, Calgary and Vancouver in early June. After some U.S. dates on the West Coast, she plans to play Toronto and Montreal in August, then smaller Canadian centres in the fall. Twain hopes to be on the road for most of this year and next. And anyone watching her rehearse and perform with her band last month at a Nashville TV studio could see that this is no typical country act. It is a hip, urban-looking outfit with an aggressive three-piece fiddle section and the energy of a pop band. "Basically, the show will be a party," says Twain, "and I'm the hostess. It's not going to be that slick. Just high energy, great lights and great sound."

With her music, Twain has goosed the tired country format with a well-aimed kick of sexy common sense. Her songs, which she co-writes with Lange, range from domestic-bliss ballads to sassy rockers that taunt and tease. In *Don't Be Stupid*

She is Canadian music's no-nonsense sex symbol

COVER

(You Know I Love You), she offers feisty reassurance to a jealous mate. In *That Don't Impress Me Much*, she sings, "OK, so you're Brad Pitt . . . so you've got the looks, but have you got the touch?" This is not hurtin' music, but painless pop. "Shania Twain has carved out her own place in country," says Chet Flippo, Nashville correspondent for *Billboard*. "Until she came along, there was no job description for what she is—a pop femme fatale in country, for want of a better term. She's playing by her own rules. And she's changing the audience."

Twain, meanwhile, is spearheading a country music invasion from Canada that is rejuvenating an industry rooted in the American South. "She's only the tip of the iceberg," says Nashville music journalist Robert K. Oermann. "A lot of the freshest sounds in country music are coming from Canada. The industry is looking north, because that's where the authenticity is."

Along with Celine Dion, Alanis Morissette and Sarah McLachlan, Twain also belongs to a brave new wave of Canadian women who have taken the U.S. music industry by storm. And judging by the current slate of Juno nominees, a new generation of talent, both male and female, is hot on their heels (page 54). If Dion is the pop diva, Morissette the angry young rocker and McLachlan the sensitive folkie, Twain is the no-nonsense sex symbol—a take-charge woman line-dancing down the middle of the road, splitting the difference between feminine compliance and feminist effrontery.

Twain's voice has a melting twang, enough to conjure up country, yet more suggestive of the boudoir than the barn. Her songs are flavored with fiddle and steel guitar, but Lange—who has put his studio stamp on Def Leppard, AC/DC and Bryan Adams—upholsters the music with lush arrangements typical of rock. "There are a lot of country fans who wouldn't usually be interested in as progressive a sound," says Twain. "And by the same token a lot of pop people like my music who wouldn't usually be attracted to country." With the new album, Twain's image, along with the music, creeps closer to pop. On the poster for it, denim and cowboy chaps have given way to faux-leopard and black leather. And in the video for *Don't Be Stupid*, she is in black sequins, river-dancing across a flooded alley.

While there is no denying her talent as a singer and songwriter, image is an integral part of Twain's appeal. She is a country singer who looks like a supermodel. Hollywood has, predictably, taken notice—the singer has turned down a stream of movie offers, including a role opposite Al Pacino. On camera, Twain projects a playful sexuality, an allure that is part come-on, part come-off-it. Like a PG version of Madonna, Twain promotes the flirtatious co-existence of glamor and self-empowerment. She is country's *Cosmo* girl, a fantasy that works for both men and women. The video for her latest single, the ballad *You're Still the One*, unfolds like a Harlequin romance, with Twain on a moonlit beach in a silky robe, dreaming of a Calvin Klein hunk, who steps from the bath dripping wet and lets his towel fall to the floor as he slides into her bed.

No country singer has used video to promote herself with as much audacity as Twain. In fact, it was her very first video—a sexy, midriff-baring number from her first album—that hooked her most important fan. Lange saw it in 1993 and phoned her out of the blue. The same footage caught the eye of actor Sean Penn, who directed a video for her. John and Bo Derek (*10*) also took notice, and together they shot the first video from the second album, with Twain dancing on a diner countertop in a hot red dress.

Twain's style has drawn some flack from traditional quarters of country music. Guitarist Steve Earle once dismissed her as "the world's highest paid lap dancer." And some critics dwell on the fact that, since her breakthrough, she has never proven herself as a performer, except through a camera lens. Others suggest she is a studio Barbie created by a Svengali husband and a high-powered rock management (Twain is now handled out of Connecticut by Jon Landau, who represents Bruce Springsteen). "A lot of people are accusing her of being packaged," concedes Luke Lewis, Nashville president of her Mercury label. "But I don't think this is a marketing-driven artist. It's been her vision from the beginning—all the clothes, all the looks, all the concepts."

In person, Twain certainly seems self-possessed. Sitting down for an interview in a Nashville hotel suite, she extends a firm handshake. In black pants, a black leather vest and a white T-shirt showing a sliver of midriff, she looks perennially ready for her close-up. She does not drink or smoke. She keeps her five-foot, four-inch, 110-lb. frame fit with regular workouts. Her skin has the glow of a woman who rides horses to relax. But Twain's clear-eyed charisma also works as a mask. She never lets down her guard, which can be frustrating for a photographer or interviewer hoping to catch her in a candid moment. Still, for a woman who is so poised and put together, it is a relief to know that she finds fault with her body. "I don't like my legs," she says flatly when asked why she sings about short skirts but never wears them.







■ *Twain in the Viva Vegas revue; the singer in 1983 (inset); recently in Nashville (left): the fairy-tale story of a country girl who is raised dirt poor, performs in bars as a child, loses her parents at 22, sings to support three siblings, then finds her prince*

It is late afternoon, and Twain has spent the day doing nonstop interviews with country radio broadcasters, ending each one with a snapshot and an autograph. Over and over, she answered questions about the new ripple in her hair, explaining that it comes from a curling iron, not a perm. One unctuous radio host had an unusual request.

"If you wouldn't mind calling me Sweet Cheeks, maybe once," he said.

As the tape rolled, he introduced his guest. "Here we are in Shania Twain's *hotel* room . . ."

"And I'm with Sweet Cheeks," she said.

"See, Shania Twain does call me Sweet Cheeks . . . I'll pay you later."

"Just leave it on the dresser."

No wonder she is eager to start touring. "I want to do less talking and more singing," says Twain. Her tour bus is under construction. "It's not going to be opulent," she insists. "There's not going to be any marble or anything. I want it to feel like home, with a fairly big kitchen space because I'm going to cook a lot." She plans to tour with her dog, a German shepherd named Tim, and one of her five horses, an Andalusian purebred named Dancer. Dancer will get his own trailer.

Twain, meanwhile, has handpicked a versatile touring band. The musicians all happen to be good-looking. They all sing, and most play more than one instrument—including 27-year-old Cory Churko, a Vancouver fiddler-guitarist who has spent more time playing rock than country. "She wanted a young, energetic, rocking band," says Churko, who quit his job as a computer animator to enlist. Twain is categorical about her criteria. "I can't have anyone in the band who doesn't have my energy. I don't want people who have been on the road for years and are just doing it in order to do it. And I like a clean band. I don't like drugs. I don't like alcohol. I like to have clean-living people around me."

Is she not nervous about performing live? "I'm going to be overwhelmed at first," Twain admits. "But it's going to be fun, not scary." Although she has not toured since she became a star, Twain points out that she has 20 years of stage experience under her belt—beginning at the age of 8, when her parents first started dragging her out of bed so that she could sing (legally) at the Mattagami Hotel bar in Timmins after it had stopped serving liquor. Talk about paying your dues.

"I love being in front of a live audience where I can control things," says Twain. "What I'm least comfortable with is the studio or anything contrived. I'm never at my best on television. There's a row of cameras between you and the audience, and it's very weird, very confusing."

Shania Twain is onstage, rehearsing with her band for a taping of TNN's *Prime Time Country*. The TV studio occupies a wing of Nashville's Grand Ole Opry. As the nine-piece band runs through *Don't Be Stupid*, its young black drummer, wearing headphones in a Plexiglas booth, plays to a pre-recorded cue track. And although Twain is singing live, her vocals are perfectly synced to the song's video, which is projected behind her.

The band plays with unerring precision, fiddles cutting in and out with the galvanized attack of a horn section. Twain, meanwhile, delivers her songs with polished moves that barely change from one take to the next. The toss of the hair, the hand-slap on the hip, each gesture seems built into the song. And as cameras swoop around the stage, she seems in firm command, knowing exactly where to look and how to act. Twain lays to rest any doubts that she can deliver onstage. Her voice may lack power, but she sings with melodic ease. Even when she is just testing the microphone with some a cappella phrases, there is a seductive luxury to her unadorned vocals. And as she searches for an elusive intimacy, the one thing she fusses over is the sound—"too nasal . . . too much bottom . . . too much bite . . . can you take a bit of the hard edge off? . . ."

An hour after the rehearsal, the bleachers in the Nashville studio fill up with fans who are taught how to produce polite "golf claps" or "thunderous applause" on cue. As the show begins, a life-sized poster of Twain in the form of a jigsaw puzzle is lowered from the lights. Counting down the days to her appearance, a piece has been added each week, and now that she has finally arrived, the last remaining segment—showing her belly button—is stuck into place.

Between songs, Twain puts in time on the talk-show couch. She tells a story about taking the train to the big city to appear on a TV show when she was 12. After a while, she realized she was going in the wrong direction. The conductor told her she could transfer at another station in six hours. "I said, 'You've got to stop the train right now because I'm going to be on TV.' So they let me off in the middle of the bush with my guitar. Like a little hobo. I caught a train going the other way in half an hour, but I did think, 'What if the train never comes?'"

Twain's childhood reminiscences often have an apocryphal ring, but perhaps they have just become buffed by constant repetition. This much is known. She was born in Windsor, Ont., on Aug. 28, 1965, the second of three daughters of an Irish-Canadian mother, Sharon, and her husband, Clarence Edwards, who is of Irish and French descent. By the time Twain was 2, her parents' marriage collapsed, and Sharon moved with the children to Timmins, where—four years later—she married Jerry Twain, an Ojibwa forester and prospector. He adopted the children, who automatically gained First Nations status.

Throughout her childhood, Twain was aware of her biological father, and he occasionally visited her family. But she kept his existence a secret until 1996, when *The Daily Press* in Timmins broke the story about the facts of her birth. There was a storm of

COVER

She leads a country invasion from the North

controversy as Twain was accused of lying, and of enhancing her native heritage for the sake of her career. "It was very hard on my native family," she says. "I'm a registered band member. I've been part of their community since I was a little child. It's very hurtful to know there are people who want to unravel all that."

When asked why she didn't tell the truth from the beginning, Twain's consistently perky composure gives way to a burst of anger. "Half the people in my life didn't know I was adopted," she says. "Why should I have told the press? It frustrates me no end. I can't tell you. I have never referred to Jerry as my stepfather. I never even referred to Clarence as my father, and I didn't care if I was ever in contact with that family again." Then, she adds, "It's never been an issue for me, but it's an issue for everyone else all of a sudden. It's like a big black hole."

In his recent book about country music, *Three Chords and The Truth*, U.S. author Laurence Leamer went so far as to call Twain's life story "a brilliant reconstruction," claiming that she has exaggerated the poverty of her childhood. Twain says that in fact the reverse is true. "Let's put it this way: I'm not sugarcoating, but I've revealed very little of the true hardship and intensity of my life, and that's the way I'm going to keep it."



PETER BREGG/MACLEAN'S

Skating in New York City: not hurtin' music, but painless pop

As a child, the singer recalls, she sometimes went for days with nothing to eat but bread, milk and sugar heated up in a pot. "I hardly ever took a lunch to school. I'd say I'm not hungry. Or I'd bring, like, mustard sandwiches." But Twain has fond memories of learning to hunt and trap in the bush with her father—although she is now vegetarian. And alone in nature, she would create her own world. "I'd take my guitar for a walk and go to a field or the river and write songs," she says. "As a kid I had three dreams: to live in a brick house and eat roast beef, to be kidnapped by Frank Sinatra, and to be Stevie Wonder's backup singer. It was never my dream to be a star. That was my parents' dream. I guess they prayed real hard."

Twain was a reluctant performer, but her parents were persistent. By her early teens, she was popping up on programs such as *The Tommy Hunter Show*. But only when she discovered rock 'n' roll did she begin to enjoy the stage. "I couldn't hide behind my guitar," she says. "I sensed a freedom that I'd never sensed before." Twain completed high school while working at McDonald's and playing bars. Meanwhile, her parents started a reforestation business, and from age 16 she spent summers in the bush, learning about chainsaws and seedlings, until she was supervising her own native crew.

In 1987, the death of her parents changed everything. Twain, then 22, was suddenly forced to become a mother to her younger sister and two teenage brothers. Her manager at the time, Mary Bailey, came to the rescue with a steady gig at the Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville—as a lounge act and as a singer in glitzy cabaret revues such as *Viva Vegas*. Twain paid her dues for three years at Deerhurst. And Bailey lured a Nashville producer up there to see her perform—which led to her first record deal in 1991.

The first album, *Shania Twain*, had modest sales of about 100,000 copies. But it led to the romance with Lange, which started as a songwriting relationship over the phone. They finally met face-to-face in Nashville, and married at the Deerhurst six months later. Lange, meanwhile, helped finance *The Woman in Me*, a $700,000 work of studio wizardry touted as the most expensive country album ever recorded.

Since then, reports of ruin have swirled around Twain's marriage. "People in the industry were calling my management all the time asking, 'Are they really divorcing?' " she recalls. "Most people thought we were unlikely to succeed. My family were like, 'You just met this guy, you can't get married.' " Twain adds that *You're Still the One* is about Mutt—and "the nice feeling that we've made it against all odds."

They do seem an odd couple. She spends much of her life in a professional romance with the camera, he is so obsessively media-shy that it is impossible to find a published Mutt Lange picture or interview. The South African-born producer never shows up with his wife at industry functions where he might be photographed. At the TNN show in Nashville, however, a backstage sighting—of a blue-denimed figure in his 40s, tall and handsome with a shag of blond hair—confirmed that he does, in fact, exist.

How can such a reclusive husband get along with such a public wife? "I make my living partly by being a celebrity," says Twain. "But I would love to have his life, to do the music and not have to be famous. I'm more private than people realize. I'm not that easy to get to know. My husband's the only one who really knows me. To get through the kind of life I've been through, you have to be strong, and it's wonderful when you find the right person who can share everything about you."

Whatever pain lies behind Twain's nearly seamless public persona, there is little evidence of it in her music. "It's not pure emotion. I mould it so it can be applied to people's lives. But I write a lot of music I don't share, for the same reason people have diaries. I just express myself. It's not a creative thing. It's therapeutic."

Twain's celebrity has brought its own pain to her family, and not just the native heritage controversy. Over the years, her younger brothers, Mark and Darryl, now 25 and 24, have been in and out of trouble with the law. In 1996, after they were caught trying to steal cars from a Toyota dealership in Huntsville, everyone from the CBC to *The National Enquirer* chased the story. "It's difficult for them to be exposed if they do anything wrong," says their sister, "but at the same time it helps keep them straight.' Her brothers, she adds, are now working in the bush cutting timber.

Back in the Grand Ole Opry studio in Nashville, the host of TNN's *Prime Time Country* regales his audience with tales of Twain's days as a forestry worker in an exotic place called Timmins. Getting her to put on a yellow hard hat, he challenges the singer to a log-cutting contest. Picking up one of two small electric chainsaws, she says, "This is kind of dinky. It's what men would call a woman's chainsaw." They start their engines. And as the crowd roars, Twain cuts through her log in seconds, leaving her host in the sawdust—and her legend intact.

With NICHOLAS JENNINGS in Toronto

You can't rush perfection.



It takes time, nurturing, and cutting edge technology. Lufthansa is crafting a new, innovative service concept for our First and Business Class travelers. The future of air travel is coming soon. And it's a very beautiful thing.

Lufthansa

STAR ALLIANCE

Fly an Lufthansa or our global partner Air Canada and you can accrue or redeem miles in either Lufthansa Miles & More® or Air Canada Aeroplan® in accordance with the terms and conditions of the programs.
lufthansa-ca.com

COVER

Upstarts with star power

BY NICHOLAS JENNINGS

The 27th annual Juno Awards will once again flag Canada's top-of-the-pops status Shania Twain and Sarah McLachlan—part of this country's titanic female quartet, along with Céline Dion and Alanis Morissette—are headliners at the March 22 event at Vancouver's GM Place And when Our Lady Peace takes the stage, the band will be a reminder that the boys, too, are making their mark Meanwhile, a fresh wave of diverse Canadian talent, both male and female, is coming up fast behind them Some bright new faces up for Juno prizes

JULIAN AUSTIN



Outlaw is a term often bandied about in country music to refer to an artist who bucks Nashville trends. In the case of 34-year-old Julian Austin, the word has a more conventional meaning. The rising country star and native of Sussex, N.B., has had more than his share of trouble with the law. In 1983, he served eight months for break-and-entry and possession of stolen goods. Then, in 1991, while working as a bouncer in a Saint John biker bar, Austin was convicted again, this time for cocaine trafficking. And that wasn't the half of it. "If they had caught me for all the stuff I did, I probably still wouldn't be out," laughs Austin, who says he has conquered the drug addiction that got him into trouble. "I was lost, confused and empty inside," adds the onetime rock 'n' roller. "I wanted to understand things again and fill myself up with something good. Country music did that for me. It became a form of therapy in itself."

With his trademark black Stetson, goatee and weightlifter physique, Austin has taken the Canadian country scene by the horns. His debut album, *What My Heart Already Knows*, features autobiographical numbers like *Honky Tonk Lock and Key*, about his time in prison, and puts some much-needed twang back in country music. The album has now sold 50,000 copies in Canada and has won Austin a Juno nomination for country male vocalist of the year. "There's not enough attitude in what they call 'new country' these days," declares Austin. "They've been trying to make it too pretty and too perfect. They need to put some grit back in it." Spoken like a true outlaw.

WIDE MOUTH MASON



The four-year-old Saskatoon band Wide Mouth Mason has paid its dues in a particularly tough environment—the small towns of the Prairies. And the fact that two of its three musicians belong to visible minorities made things especially difficult. Bassist Earl Pereira, 23, is from a Filipino family, and drummer Safwan Javed, 23, is of Pakistani descent (the trio is rounded out by guitarist Shaun Verreault, 24). Frequently subjected to racist taunts, the group learned how to duck insults and beer bottles during performances. Still, it tried to win over even the most redneck audiences. "We'd play everything from Nirvana to whatever the big guy in the Harley-Davidson jacket told us to play," laughs Verreault. "I'd walk into a place," Javed recalls, "and go, 'Oh, no, there's a dude in a cowboy hat—I'd better hide.' The next thing I know, he'd be slapping me on the back, saying, 'You guys are cookin' brother.'"

Signed to Warner in Canada and Atlantic in the United States, and up for the best new group Juno, the blues-rock trio is now winning over big-city audiences. Looking out of his Toronto hotel room at the expanse of the SkyDome where the band opens for The Rolling Stones on April 26, Verreault is a bit awestruck at how far they've come. "It sure is a lot bigger than Safwan's basement in Saskatoon."



NICKY J. FEIN

HOLLY McNARLAND

"This is my yeast infection song," Holly McNarland says to a cheering audience of 450 packed into Toronto's Reverb club earlier this month. With that, the 24-year-old native of The Pas, Man., launches into *The Box*, three minutes of spleen-venting fury that has placed the singer in the forefront of post-Alanis Canadian pop. Boasting a best-selling debut album, *Stuff*, and three Juno nominations (best new solo artist, best alternative album, and best video), McNarland has made a name for herself by singing songs with an astonishing frankness. The one that helped jump-start her career was a number castigating a poor lover called *Mr 5 Minutes*. One of three children born to a Métis woman and her Irish husband, McNarland credits her mother with helping her to find the powerful singing voice that emanates from her petite, tattooed frame. "When I was a child, she'd get out her guitar and we'd sing country songs," recalls McNarland, chewing on her be-jewelled lower lip. "But I was really quiet, really meek, so she'd always bitch at me, saying, 'Sing louder, I can't hear you!'"

McNarland made her debut in a Winnipeg after-hours bar when she was 16, and three years later moved to Vancouver, where her hard-edged pop sound took shape. Now touring with her own three-piece band, the singer admits that she is ready to shift emotional gears. "Anger's easy to write, but it's just one part of my personality," she says. "I'm trying to write more positive songs, but it's hard. When you're on Cloud 9, you don't feel like writing."

LHASA



CHRISTOPHER MORRIS FOR MACLEAN'S

Nobody could accuse Lhasa of taking the easy route to stardom. The Montreal musician insists on singing songs entirely in Spanish at a time when other Quebec-based acts going for a wider audience—even francophone ones—have opted for English. Yet Lhasa's exotic sound, steeped in melancholic Mexican ballads, has clearly struck a chord. The 25-year-old singer's debut album, *La Llorona*, recently went gold in Canada with sales of 50,000 and earned her two Juno nominations, for best global album and best new solo artist. Meanwhile, her performances have drawn rave reviews for their intense theatricality. Born in upstate New York to a Mexican father and an American mother, a teacher and photographer respectively, the trilingual Lhasa de Sela grew up in a bohemian environment. She and her three sisters spent their childhoods living in both Mexico and the United States, travelling around with their parents in a school bus. While her sisters embarked on careers as circus performers, Lhasa caught the musical bug, making her stage debut at 13 singing Billie Holiday songs. "I've always really liked sad music," she admits, "and always wanted to communicate an urgency about life."

Moving to Montreal in 1991 to visit her sisters, who were studying at the National Circus School, she met guitarist Yves Desrosiers, and the two began creating their jazz-tinged Latin sound. Lhasa credits both Desrosiers and her parents' tastes—especially her mother's love of operatic and theatrical songs—with influencing her music. But she makes no apologies for the Spanish. "It's all about using whatever instruments are at your disposal," she says, "and language is just another instrument for a singer."

BRAN VAN 3000

James Di Salvio began the experimentation that spawned his hot new band as a teenager doing DJ duty at his father's Montreal nightclub. Di Salvio: "I got to play with the turntables during the day, contrasting different sounds at once," explains the 29-year-old founder of Bran Van 3000, which has caused a buzz with its wildly inventive mix of giddy pop vocals, hip-hop grooves and snippets from TV commercials and other oddities. The group's debut album, *Glee*, released on a small independent label last summer, sparked a bidding war among American majors (the album now has a U.S. release on EMI). Bran Van is now up for the best new group Juno, best alternative album and single of the year—for the hit song *Drinking in L.A.*



CHRISTOPHER MORRIS FOR MACLEAN'S

Music is a second career for Di Salvio. Before BV3, he was a successful director who made videos for artists including Sarah McLachlan and U.S. jazz star Branford Marsalis (in his Buckshot LeFonque alter ego). In fact, *Drinking in L.A.* is about Di Salvio's dispiriting attempt to launch a career as a movie director in California. With the nine-member BV3, he sees himself as pulling together talent much the same way he did in the film business. Di Salvio rapped on a couple of numbers, but mainly he served as co-ordinator of the 26 musicians involved in the debut recording. All of the songs were written collaboratively. "I basically just direct now," Di Salvio says, "so it's more like a movie."

LEAHY

It all started with a bunch of kids—up to 11 of them—travelling throughout rural Ontario in their parents' van and performing at agricultural fairs and fiddle competitions. They had learned Celtic tradition from their fiddling-champion father and step-dancing mother, a native of Cape Breton. "We never set out to reach a pop audience," says Maria Leahy. "We've always just played the music that we love, and that we've been hearing since we were babies." But Leahy, the group of nine siblings aged 18 to 32 from Lakefield, Ont., has clearly high-stepped over from traditional Celtic instrumentalists to Canadian pop sensations. The breakthrough began last year, when the group's self-titled debut album first made the pop charts. Boosted by the popularity of videos for *The Call to Dance* and *B Minor*—not to mention the Celtic revival spurred by shows like *Riverdance*—the album is now approaching platinum-level sales of 100,000.

The band recently got back from Europe, where its first album was just released, as it was in the United States. Soon after the Junos, where Leahy is up for best new group, instrumental artists of the year, and best roots and traditional album (group), the ensemble will start recording a new album, and then it tours with The Cheftains for two weeks. "It's all a bit hectic," says Maria, 27, Leahy's guitarist. But the former high-school teacher boasts on the fact that she and her siblings have Celtic music and dance in their blood—"This is like bread and water to us."

With TANYA DAVIES in Toronto



Maclean's gives you six reasons to watch television.



Pamela Wallin as your host



Robert Lewis and his editor's column



Brian D. Johnson's film reviews



Anthony Wilson-Smith on politics



Ross Laver's business analysis



Plus, special guests & weekly features

Our weekly half-hour show gives you a vivid look at the people and news from the pages of Maclean's. In addition to your weekly magazine, you can watch Maclean's TV every Sunday at two convenient times on CBC Newsworld: 4:30 p.m. ET / 1:30 p.m. PT and earlier at 7:30 a.m. ET / 4:30 a.m. PT.

NEWSWORLD
Canada's News Network

Maclean's TV is sponsored by: CHRYSLER CANADA ROYAL BANK FINANCIAL GROUP

Watch NEWSWORLD BUSINESS NEWS for the most comprehensive live coverage of financial news in Canada, weeknights at 6:30 and 11:30 p.m. ET on CBC NEWSWORLD.

Maclean's TV

Found by using yahoo.ca

Globe and Mail ranks Yahoo! Canada #1 Web site.*

Search: Canadian Cuisine

What is yahoo.ca you ask?

Well, it's simple. If you use yahoo.ca for your web searches, Canadian sites will be listed first, followed by sites from around the world. In short, it just makes your life a lot less complicated.

Oh yeah, by the way, it's free, gratuit... no charge!

www.yahoo.ca

YAHOO! CANADA

Yahoo! and the Yahoo! logo are the trademarks of Yahoo! Inc. Text and artwork copyright © 1997 by Yahoo! Inc. All rights reserved.

Tuning into the Net

The World Wide Web comes to the home TV screen

According to Marshall McLuhan, new media will always cannibalize older ones. Cinema did it to theatre at the turn of the century. And television did it to cinema in the 1950s. (In McLuhan-ese, television made cinema its "content," as cinema had earlier done to theatre.) That theory begs the question: will the Internet now assert its emerging dominance by gobbling up TV? It is too early to say for sure. But efforts to create a TV environment on the Net—for example, U.S.-based America Online Inc.'s use of channels and programs to lure subscribers to its service—have had limited success. In fact, the process may even be working in reverse: a rash of new products, only now becoming available, offer the Internet as part of the content available on the familiar living room tube.



Nickerson: rival technologies lure TV viewers onto the Internet

The first Canadian foray into television-based Internet access is barely four months old. BeyondTV, from Winnipeg-based ViewCall Canada Inc., made its debut last November, to mixed reviews. BeyondTV gives subscribers access to the Internet and the ability to send and receive e-mail via the same home appliance they use to watch *Seinfeld* and *Hockey Night in Canada*. All they have to do is connect their TV to a telephone line and a set-top box from WebSurfer ($429 including special remote control and wireless keyboard). The Internet connection costs $30 a month, discounted to $10 for subscribers who already have an Internet service provider. "The majority of our subscribers have never used a PC before," says Tim Nickerson, managing director of ViewCall Canada, a division of phone company Manitoba Telecom Services Inc. He adds: "We're trying to position BeyondTV as an entertainment service that cuts through the chaos of the Internet." An example of that strategy is BeyondTV's plan to create post-broadcast Internet information sites for such top-rated TV shows as *The X-Files*. Nickerson describes it as "extending the broadcast experience."

ViewCall Canada will not reveal how many subscribers it has signed to date. Its parent, Manitoba Telecom, seems to be taking the long view, launching its Internet TV service as a test platform in preparation for the impending convergence of telecommunications industries that, analysts predict, will pit telephone and cable television providers against each other in direct competition. In that case, BeyondTV's learning curve is still apparent: a common complaint is that users find it awkward to navigate around the service's on-screen prompts.

Meanwhile, BeyondTV is bracing to meet more immediate competition from two technology groups that have been offering the Internet on TV in the United States since 1996. The first is led by WebTV Networks Inc. of Palo Alto, Calif., in partnership with Sony Corp., Philips N.V. and Mitsubishi Corp. Like BeyondTV, WebTV involves the purchase of a set-top box (made by Sony) and of a continuing Internet provider account. The latest version, launched last fall in the United States under the WebTV Plus brand, makes it possible to frame a TV show within a Web browser. That means a subscriber can, for example, be watching a documentary about sharks on The Discovery Channel, while also scrolling around the network's Internet home page—or engaging in an on-line chat about the toothy animals. Tokyo-based Sony plans to launch WebTV Plus in this country by June (to date, Philips and Mitsubishi have not revealed their plans for the Canadian market). Sony's version of the set-top box, with a built-in TV tuner, printer port and hard drive, will retail for $299. A wireless keyboard will be sold separately for $99. WebTV Networks plans to bill subscribers in Canada $19.95 (U.S.) a month ($28 at current exchange rates) for Internet service.

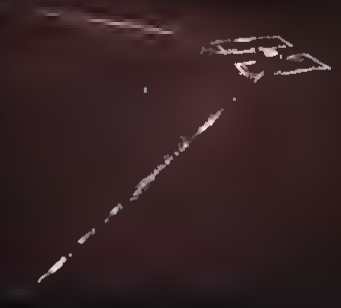
The other big Internet on-the-tube camp is a partnership between Microsoft arch-rival Oracle Corp. of Redwood Shores, Calif. (the world's No. 2 software developer), Thomson Consumer Electronics Inc. of Indianapolis, Ind., and NetChannel Inc. of San Francisco. This group currently sells a package in the United States that lets customers choose between using their TV to watch a show or surf the Web, with the backing of RCA Electronics (which Thomson owns), the same service will be available in Canada by July. Thomson insists the set-top box ($399 including remote and keyboard) is really a network computer with Internet access—not merely a TV extension—but the distinction is likely to be lost on viewers. A $30 monthly fee gives users unlimited Internet access.

Ken Frankum, manager of multimedia products for Thomson in Canada, says there are two reasons for people to surf the Internet over the television: it costs less than a PC, and it puts techno-phobes at ease. There are other reasons for Thomson and its rivals to scent a potential market for Internet TV: while only 36 per cent of Canadian homes own a computer and barely 15 per cent are on the Internet, virtually all own a television. For Derrick deKerckhove, director of the McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology at the University of Toronto, those facts point the way to a shared future for both media. "WebTV is the Trojan horse of the Internet," says deKerckhove. "Once you allow it into your home, you're caught."

ERIK HEINRICH

1 Winning is not about scoring runs.

2 It's about reaching goals.



That's why the 3M National Coaching Certification Program was created. And why we place more emphasis on teaching life skills over athletic skills. Because teamwork, fair play and commitment will take a child a lot further than running, catching and hitting.

Our goal is to raise the standard of coaching across Canada. So that every child who takes part in sport leaves the ice having had a positive experience. And judging by the praise and interest we've received from sports organizations around the world, it's a goal worth reaching. The NCCP is supported by 3M because it reflects the same values that help us make the leap *from need to...*

BASEBALL CANADA

Canadian Heritage

In cooperation with federal, provincial and territorial governments

3M *Innovation*

For more information, call 1-800-3M-HELPS or Internet: http://www.mmm.com

Doesn't your child deserve a certified coach?

People

Edited by
TANYA DAVIES

Not just a pretty face



Priestley, hosting the Junos and branching out into directing and movie roles

Teen idol **Jason Priestley** would seem an unlikely candidate to host the 28th Juno Awards, taking place in Vancouver on March 22. But there is more to the Vancouver native than meets the eye. Priestley, best known for portraying Goody Two-shoes Brandon Walsh on the highly popular television series *Beverly Hills 90210*, admits that returning to Canada to host the annual salute to the Canadian music industry was not at the top of his list of goals. However, he says that when the call came from MuchMusic host and producer **Terry David Mulligan** asking him if he would be remotely interested, he found himself responding, "Hell, yeah, it'll be a blast!"

Perhaps it had something to do with the 28-year-old heartthrob's intimate familiarity with Canadian pop. In 1996, he directed his first music video as a favor to his friends in the Toronto-based band the **Barenaked Ladies**. The video for *The Old Apartment* garnered Priestley a best director nomination at the 1996 Canadian Music Video Awards. "I am a huge fan of Canadian music and would love to direct more videos for Canadian bands," he says, adding with a chuckle, "after all, we speak the same language." Priestley has taken a number of other steps to ensure his post-*90210* survival. He has written, produced and directed several episodes of the prime-time soap. And he has branched out into the movies. In his latest and most prestigious feature film, *Love and Death on Long Island*, Priestley plays—what else?—a teen idol. His character is dealing with the attentions of an English author, portrayed by **John Hurt**, who has become infatuated with him. The movie was well received at both the Cannes and Toronto film festivals, and has just been released to critical acclaim. Priestley says it was amusing to play a character a bit like himself. "With that role, I was making fun of myself. When you are in the limelight, you can't take yourself too seriously."



McDermid, striking a chord with a crime expert

PHILL SNELLGROVE/CLIENTS

Nastily naturalistic

The books of British crime author **Val McDermid** are so ghoulishly authentic that she can count at least one crime expert among her fans—retired RCMP insp. **Ron MacKay**, who set up Canada's national serial offender database—and it was arranged that they would meet. The thriller, *The Wire in the Blood*, deals with a serial psychopath who tortures and murders teenage girls, and the police task force created to catch him. During their recent day together, recalls McDermid, 42, MacKay "said that this would be the perfect system in the U.K."

Manchester, England-based McDermid has always been a mystery junkie, plowing through the Nancy Drew series during her childhood in a small town in Scotland. "I understand how a mystery works," says McDermid, whose work has won the Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger Award. "You have a body, suspects and a resolution at the end." She and MacKay resolved to meet when MacKay is in Manchester for an upcoming conference on crime. Over a cup of tea the two will discuss serial psychopaths and sadists, with glee.

Pucks, politics and profits

In a 17-year career as a defenceman that earned him a place in the Hockey Hall of Fame, **Serge Savard** sometimes seemed to be everywhere on the ice at once. Retired as a player since 1983, Montreal-based Savard, 52, brings the same trait to Quebec business and politics. Recently, Savard, a federalist, publicly rejected an opportunity to replace **Daniel Johnson** as Quebec Liberal party leader. He surfaced again to help the Montreal Expos raise money for a new stadium. Savard also promotes season tickets for the CFL's Montreal Alouettes. Now, sources say, Savard has a new mission: with onetime federal Liberal cabinet minister **Jacques Olivier**, he is organizing the candidacy of Montreal's police chief, **Jacques Duchesneau**, for a mayoralty election this fall. "Serge," says Montreal *Gazette* writer Red Fisher, a good friend, "was always a real smart guy with a great nose for the puck. Since he's gotten into business, his nose has to be twice as big to sniff out all his interests."

CANADA'S NEWS NETWORK

NEWSWORLD MEANS MONEY.

When it comes to personal finances, shouldn't you make informed investment choices?

That's where we come in. **THE MONEY SHOW** keeps you up-to-date on new developments that might affect you.

If you miss what **THE MONEY SHOW** has to say, you miss a unique financial opportunity. Can you afford to do that?

Nancy Wilson
The Money Show

NEWSWORLD BUSINESS NEWS

ALL TIMES ET

Newsworld Business News	Breakfast	weekdays	6:30AM
Newsworld Business News	Working Day	weekdays	11:30AM
Newsworld Business News	Early Edition	weekdays	6:30PM
Newsworld Business News	Late Edition	weekdays	11:30PM
The Money Show		mondays	8:30PM
		saturdays	4:30PM
Newsworld Business News	Weekly	saturdays	8:30AM
		sundays	1:30PM

NEWSWORLD
CANADA'S NEWS NETWORK

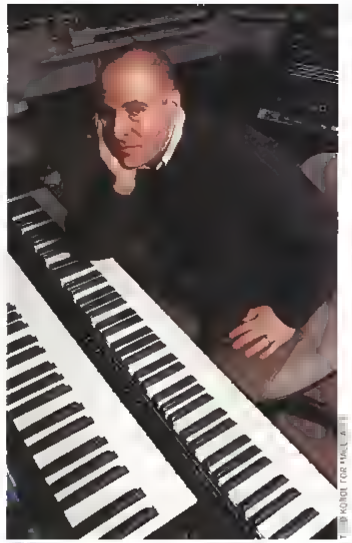
Check out our internet site featuring a regularly updated online news service! www.newsworld.cbc.ca

Hip-hopping from ghetto to campus

Sure, rap music "started out as disco with bad rhymes," observes Adam Krims, who may be Canada's only full-time professor of hip-hop. "But it's no longer very 'discoey' and the rhymes are a lot better." So it should not be a surprise to see rap moving from the ghetto to the college curriculum.

Krims, the 34-year-old, Harvard-educated director of the University of Alberta's new Institute for Popular Music, is currently writing a book on hip-hop and makes the tough-talking, ghetto-inspired music the centrepiece of his theory courses. And, he asks, why not? Rap music is infinitely more pervasive than classical, which has tended to dominate university music faculties. "It is arguably the best-selling genre in the world," says Krims, defending rap as a perfect jumping-off point for discussions of urban life, commercialism, ethnicity, sexism and violence.

For two years, Krims has been teaching graduate and senior courses in hip-hop, in some cases comparing it with classical music. The demand has been such that the music department is considering featuring hip-hop as part of a broad popular music survey class at the introductory level. Krims says he is particularly fascinated by the way the form has caught on with many young Alberta Cree, who seem to have taken to rap not for its in your face militancy but for its reflection of something important about their own alienation and lifestyles. "For me," says Darren Tootoosis, a 23-year-old student from Hobbema who raps under the stage name Bannock, the music comes from the same wellspring "as the black urban culture from the States—the violence, the abuse of drugs and alcohol, the fast lifestyle. I'm not here to tell people right from wrong, just that they are not alone, that there are other people out there too with the same problems."



Krims: popular with Alberta Cree students

Krims does not defend the "gangsta style" violence and sexism in many rap lyrics, but he believes it must be seen in a larger context. "When Johnny Cash sings about killing a man, it's edgy," says the professor. "When an Afro-American rap artist does, Warner Bros. pulls the CD." Among his colleagues in the music department, the reviews are mixed, says Krims. "But you have to understand we are a very unusual department here. We focus on interdisciplinary studies, popular music and critical theory. Here, I am almost in the mainstream."

A time to choose for the principal

Ontario's approximately 8,000 principals and vice-principals are anticipating a provincial government school funding announcement scheduled for next week with apprehension. One of the provisions of the new Education Quality Improvement Act, the law that provoked a two-week walkout of Ontario teachers in the fall, is that principals and vice-principals have until April 1 to declare whether they want to remain in their unions as teachers or stay on in their current jobs without union protection. The much-delayed funding plan may force boards to declare many senior positions redundant. Now set to be revealed on March 25, it would leave principals and vice-principals with all of six days to decide whether they can do without unionized job protection.

"It's been very stressful," observes Ken Sheppard, principal of Delhi District Secondary School in southwestern Ontario and head of the Ontario Principals' Council, who adds that the rumor mill about cutbacks has been working overtime. "Here's a situation where many people feel caught between a rock and a hard place."

Adding to the anxiety level is a new government regulation that went into effect last week. It says any principals or vice-principals who remain in their post and are subsequently declared redundant cannot bump a teacher, but can only be reassigned to the classroom if there is a position available within the current school year.

Sheppard says he expects about 10 per cent of the current group, or roughly 800 principals and vice-principals, to play it safe and preserve their seniority by opting back into the ranks of teachers on April 1. That would mean forgoing extra salary of between $8,000 and $18,000—the difference between what a top teacher and a seasoned principal can make. So has he decided yet? "I don't have to," says a rueful Sheppard. "I get to retire in June."

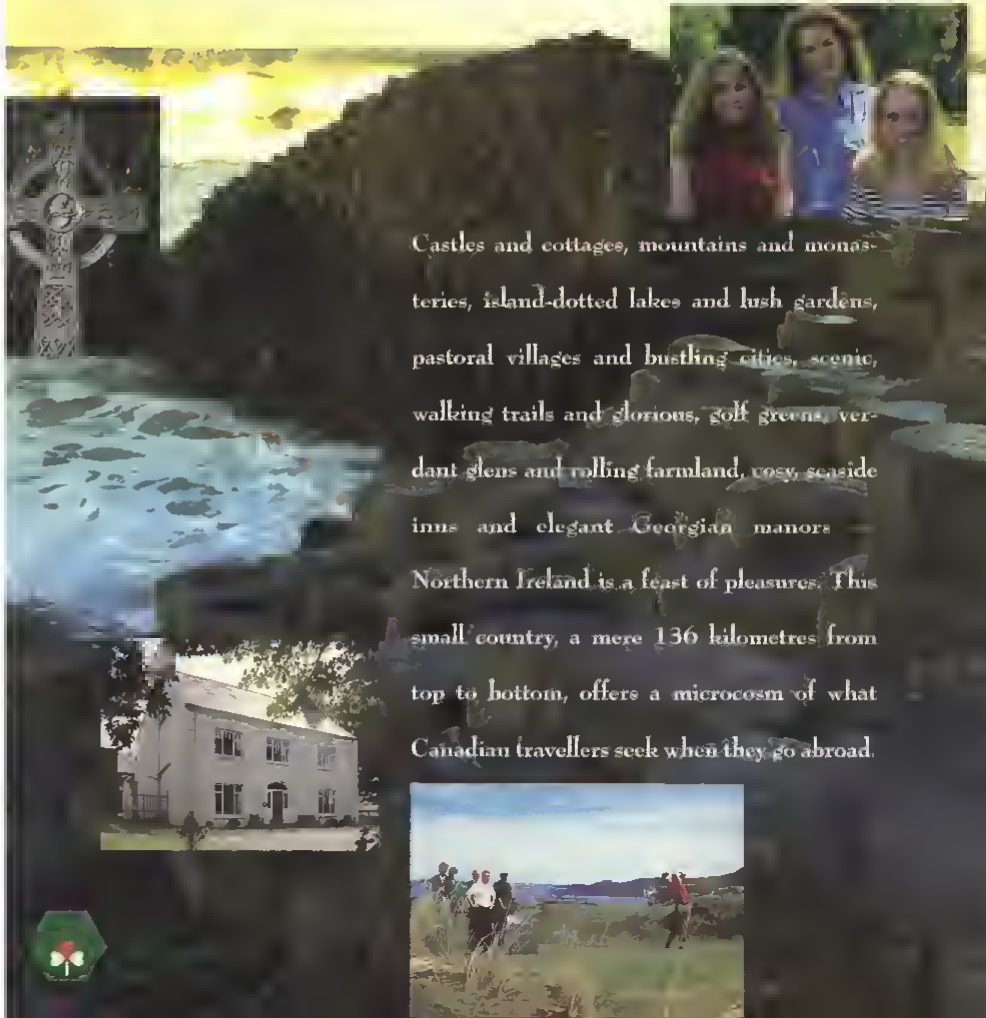
Bucking the trend of university cutbacks

Bucking the national trend, B.C. Premier Glen Clark announced a $26-million increase in post-secondary funding. More than two-thirds of that amount will go to add 2,000 new student places in colleges and 900 in universities in September. The rest is to help the institutions cope with budgetary overruns and to go towards start-up costs for the new Technical University of British Columbia to be located in the lower Fraser Valley. What's more, the new cash follows hard on the heels of a promised $13-million increase in student aid by the B.C. government just the week before.

Those new investments make British Columbia the only province to both increase its post-secondary funding (while most other provinces are cutting back) *and* freeze tuitions, for the third year in a row. But is it enough? According to a recent study by University of British Columbia economist Robert Allen, the provincial economy required 35,000 university graduates each year between 1992 and 1996, but its universities produced only 12,000 annually. On a per capita basis, Allen says, British Columbia has the smallest university system of any province, and ranks last in the number of degrees granted to resident in their 20s.

An advertising supplement to the March 23, 1998 issue of Maclean's magazine

Awaken to Northern Ireland



Castles and cottages, mountains and monasteries, island-dotted lakes and lush gardens, pastoral villages and bustling cities, scenic, walking trails and glorious, golf greens, verdant glens and rolling farmland, cosy, seaside inns and elegant Georgian manors — Northern Ireland is a feast of pleasures. This small country, a mere 136 kilometres from top to bottom, offers a microcosm of what Canadian travellers seek when they go abroad.

A rich heritage is evidenced by Stone Age tombs, Celtic crosses and Norman castles. These poignant reminders of the past are combined with vibrant cities that offer the best in museums, shopping, nightlife, restaurants and accommodation. And these urban pleasures are balanced with country visits that take in what is arguably some of the world's best scenery and the opportunity to enjoy an abundance of outdoor activities. Whether it be the tranquil pleasures of walking, birding or visiting famous gardens or the ambitious pastimes of trekking a mountain path, meeting the challenge of renowned links courses, or standing waist-deep in a wild river trying for a trout, Northern Ireland has it all.

There are some places in the traveller's world where the road beckons and Northern Ireland is such a place. This is not a straight highway made boring with exit signs but a meandering, peaceful road through six counties with hidden treats — a heritage site here, a breathtakingly beautiful landscape there, or a village pub where a quick stop turns into an afternoon of swapping tales with the locals.



There is only one drawback to a driving tour of this green land, you may find several places that you don't wish to leave. Rent a car, have a gameplan but remain flexible. Here's some highlights of an automobile amble through Northern Ireland.

Beguiling Belfast

Belfast will surprise you. There is a special charm to this northern city that boomed during the industrial revolution. Today it is still a thriving port — it has the world's largest dry dock — at the mouth of Belfast Lough but it is much more. Tour the extravagantly-designed City Hall, don't miss Belfast Castle on Cave Hill (on a sunny day it's ideal for pictures), and unravel the past at the Ulster Museum. As well as chronicling history, this museum opens into an exquisite botanic garden housed in one of Europe's finest glass and iron atriums.

It's a pleasure to meander the wide pedestrian malls of Castle Lane and Donegall Place to enjoy street entertainment and a wealth of shops from high-end designer to cluttered antique nooks. As you stroll the city streets, look up to enjoy ornate sculptures adorning Victorian and Edwardian facades as Belfast is a city of architectural splendour. Nowhere is this more evident than on the campus of Queen's University, a peaceful retreat with its softly-hued brick buildings and Tudor cloisters. However, the campus is lively each fall when it hosts the country's largest art festival. The Belfast Festival at Queen's is a 16 day extravaganza of talent with everything from jazz, blues and comedy to opera, lectures and drama.

Visit Belfast prepared to be entertained. Whether it be a concert in the new, spectacular Belfast Waterfront Hall or a pub stop where the atmosphere is jovial thanks to Irish music — as well as Irish whiskey and Guinness. And the eateries won't let you down either. The pub grub is hearty — soups, stews, fresh breads and "champ" (potatoes creamed with onions and served with sausage) — but there is also fine dining that portrays international cuisine. These culinary treats won't hurt the pocketbook; a three-course meal of perhaps, fresh seafood, with wine can be enjoyed for around $30-$35.

The friendliness of Belfast folk is contagious. There is a welcoming mood here that isn't found in every destination.





More than the Mournes

Northern Ireland's highest mountains, the Mournes, really do sweep down to the sea as immortalised in song by Percy French. These gently contoured giants — Slieve Donard is the country's highest at 850 metres — punctuate the coast of County Down south of Belfast. The pretty coastal town of Newcastle is a hub for explorations that include gentle walks or ambitious hikes in the Mournes and lovely coastal drives that take in the lively fishing port of Kilkeel and the remains of 12th century monasteries and of Dundrum Castle.

Golf is the game in this part of the world and a highlight is the over-a-century-old Royal County Down Golf Club. It is famous for the challenge of its greens as well as the views of the Mournes and the Irish Sea — this is a once-in-a-lifetime golf experience.

In County Down one can follow the footsteps of Saint Patrick who arrived in 432AD and established his first church at Saul. A peaceful churchyard in nearby Downpatrick is the site of the Saint's grave, on March 17 the simple slab of granite is strewn with daffodils.

It's Hard to Miss the Ards

One of Northern Ireland's best kept secrets for nature lovers is the Ards Peninsula. A slender finger of land that wraps around Strangford Lough, the Ards is an hour's drive from Belfast and, at its southern tip, a wink of a ferry ride to connect back to the mainland. Within its 36-kilometre length are boundless sights and activities. The turbulent waters of the British Isle's largest sea inlet are a haven of

life for myriad natural and wild life including seals and sea urchins. Excursions include cycling (there are companies that provide bikes and guides), walking, birding, fishing, boat trips and all water sports.

An Ards excursion should be a slow one with many stops — a visit to Mount Stewart (a National Trust property that boasts a stately home, magnificent gardens and unusual topiary art and outdoor sculptures), a tour of Exploris, an aquarium that gives close-up views of the mysterious world of the Irish Sea and a picnic near Cloghy Rocks to watch for seals. Don't miss the Ards.

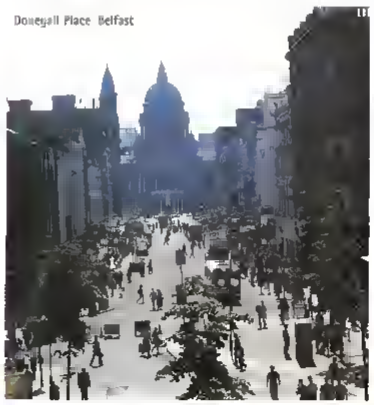
The Giant's Way

With all that this small country has going for it, one may wonder why a stretch of stone columns is its most visited site. Once the Giant's Causeway is seen, this question is easily answered. This path of 40,000 basalt columns, leading from the shoreline into the North Sea, has been a lure for tourists since its description was first published in 1693. The dramatic beauty of the Antrim Coast is the



of this natural wonder.

Nowhere in this wet country will the call of the road be stronger than along this famous coastline. Stretching from Portrush to Larne, the Antrim Coast is one of the world's most scenic drives. The bustling seaside town of Portrush's claim to fame is the Royal Portrush Golf Course. It is the only Irish course to have hosted the British Open and has attracted international attention over the last three years when it played host to the Senior British Open Tournament. Its picture-perfect links face the sea and welcomes visiting golfers.



A visit to this region would not be complete without a dram — or two — of Irish Whiskey at Old Bushmills Distillery where the golden coloured libation has been brewed since 1608. Tours — that include free samples! — are available.



This twisting route above pearly-toned limestone cliffs that plunge into emeralds depths displays one magnificent vista after another. The craggy outline of Dunluce Castle precariously perched on a steep promontory appears a scene from the middle ages or perhaps a fairy tale. Further along, a short walk from the roadside, and you arrive at Carrick-a-rede rope bridge that hangs above an 18-metre chasm. It's a thrilling, swaying stroll to reach a flower-spangled island that has supported a salmon fishery for 350 years.

For walkers, the Antrim Coast is the place. Actually all of Northern Ireland has superb trails, the most trodden is the Ulster Way — a circular, 929-kilometre route that passes through all six counties. Thankfully, the well-marked path is broken into convenient sections and this Causeway Coast segment — Number 10 in the Northern Ireland Tourist brochure on Walking — is surely one of the most spectacular.

What's in a Name?

To visit the finest example of a walled city in Ireland, stop in Londonderry. Founded by monks in 546AD, it was christened Derry a derivative of the Gaelic word doire which means "place of the oaks". By any name, this northern inland port, located at the end of Lough Foyle, is a historic gem. Take time to savour this hillside city. Walk the 17th century wall that encircles the old town, glimpse history in the intriguing Tower Museum and spend time in the Craft Village to enjoy the work of contemporary artists as well as crafts of yesteryear. As well marvel at the grandeur of The Guildhall, the showpiece of the city where world leaders have visited.



Fermanagh is for Fishing

Tucked into the southwest corner of Northern Ireland is a wonderland of water. Nowhere in Europe has so much water and so few boats as this lake-rich region. Lough (which means lake) Erne is 80 kilometres in length — joined in the middle at a narrow neck where the small town of Enniskillen sits — and a mecca for fishers. The island-studded and winded upper lake and wider, wilder lower lake abound with pike, roach, perch, bream, rudd and eels. Lough Melvin boasts prolific spring salmon runs and unusual species of trout, as does Lough Neagh.

A visiting angler's supreme experience is as easy as popping into a tackle shop for gear (the main making choice of whether to rent a boat and drift for brown trout on the Lower Erne or wander the shoreline of any nearby lake where you may barbecue your fresh catch for lunch). A visit to Northern Ireland can be a fishers delight, as the lakes, streams, rivers and oceans in this part of the world are wealthy with fish — it is known as being the best-stocked salmon water in Europe. And by the way, to find out where the big ones are, pop into a pub and chat with the locals. They'll soon tell you a few fish tales.

As well as the bountiful pleasures of the Fermanagh lakelands, don't miss the medieval Enniskillen Castle, which houses a museum; the fascinating limestone caves at Marble Arch; and the world-famous delicate pottery made at Belleek. A boat trip is a must to explore the islands of the Lower Lough Erne. Six of the nearly 100 verdant isles-for-sale will preserved archaeological finds: the seven-stone figures framed by a Romanesque archway on White Island and the two-faced, horned Celtic idols that adorn an overgrown cemetery on Boa Island, to name just a few.

"My Sweet Hill"

A visit to Northern Ireland wouldn't be complete without experiencing Armagh, the spiritual capital of the country for some 1,500 years. This gracious city, dubbed "my sweet hill" by St. Patrick, is located south of Lough Neagh and completes a circular driving trip of the country before returning to Belfast. It is the seat of both Anglican and Roman Catholic archbishops and its lovely cathedrals are well worth seeing as are the planetarium, County Museum, and elegant Georgian architecture. A must-see is Saint Patrick's Trian, an exciting museum that relates the history of Armagh from its myths and legends to the coming of Saint Patrick and Celtic Christianity.

Choose to Cruise

Surely one of the most relaxing holidays or a component to any well-planned vacation, is a gentle float on a waterway. The ultimate Irish cruise is the 62-kilometre Shannon–Erne Waterway — a charming link of streams, rivers and lakes — that connects the Erne River in the north with the famed Shannon in the south. (There are no hurdles between Northern Ireland and the Republic.) Lovely leafy banks, 34 stone bridges, 16 locks and a precious unspoiled countryside are the treats along this 13-hour peaceful sojourn. Luxury cruisers are available for rental and can be booked in Canada.

At Day's End

A brisk-paced exploration of this small country nation-cupowing the local scene. A stop at a "Ceili" (a musical festival) to enjoy traditional music and dancing — the spirit is contagious, you may find yourself doing an Irish jig. A stay at a bed-and-breakfast or small country inn is enhanced by joining the family for tea. (Mouth-watering scones are an Irish tea treat.)

Is there anything more cosy than a country cottage? It may be a restored farmhouse that, from the moment you enter, feels like an old friend. Some rural cottages are secluded in a pretty glen — city and ocean front apartments are other options. Northern Ireland accommodation is great value with B&B rates starting as low as $30 per person per night including a full Ulster breakfast.

While your whirlwind hotel-to-hotel home-away-from-home may be close to a century old, it will have all the amenities such as central heating, microwave, telephone and television. However, the joy will be in lazing in front of a fragrant peat-burning fireplace or awaking to the astonishing view of rolling glens of green dotted with sheep and picturesquely criss-crossed with aged stone walls. There are some 130 of these traditional restored cottages sprinkled throughout the countryside. Don't miss them; these hidden away dwellings are one of the many joys that await you in Northern Ireland. ■

GETTING THERE:

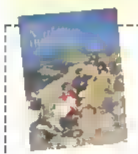
Air Canada, British Airways and Canadian Airways International all offer daily services to Belfast via London.

Direct charter flights to Belfast are also available (May - October). The following charter airlines operate direct flights from Toronto to Belfast in 1998 -- Air Transat, Canada 3000, Royal Airlines and Skyservice.

For more information and reservations contact your local travel agent.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Complete the reader reply coupon below and fax back to the Northern Ireland Tourist Board at (416) 925-6033 or call 1-800-576-8174. Alternatively, visit our website at www.ni-tourism.com



Northern Ireland Tourist Board

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Province _____

Postal Code _____

Mail/Fax this coupon to: Northern Ireland Tourist Board, 111 Avenue Road, Suite 450, Toronto, Ontario M5R 3J8
Fax: (416) 925-6033 Tel: (416) 925-6368/ Toll free: 1 800 576-8174



Students practising on mannequins at Ottawa's Notre Dame high school: keeping the patient alive

Health

Critical lessons for life

Seventeen-year-old Kasia Smetny was watching a tennis match in Halifax last summer when she saw another spectator, a white-haired man of 60, fall to the ground. A small crowd gathered around the man's unconscious body, recalls Smetny, who was visiting friends in Halifax at the time, "but nobody was really doing anything." So *she* did something. Drawing on training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) that she received in Grade 9 at her Ottawa high school, Smetny checked for a pulse and, when she failed to find any, made sure his airway was clear then blew into his lungs. Still unable to locate a pulse, she placed her hands on his chest and leaned the weight of her body against them. The stricken man responded by gasping—and by the time an ambulance arrived soon after, he was showing definite signs of life. The man she helped was Robert Weatherston, a Halifax businessman who recovered and was soon walking several kilometres a day. Weatherston telephoned Smetny later to thank her for helping to save his life. "I'm happy I was there," she says. "I just did what seemed natural."

In fact, by her quick action Smetny became the vital first link in a chain of survival that can save someone whose heart has stopped because of organ failure, electrocution, drowning or some other life-threatening event. The key lies in keeping the victim alive until emergency personnel arrive with the equipment needed to electrically shock the victim's heart back into operation. Yet even though CPR techniques have been around for more than 25 years, experts in emergency care estimate that only about 10 per cent of Canadians know how to use them. Now, an Ottawa-based, nonprofit organization called the ACT (for Advanced Coronary Treatment) Foundation is trying to change that by making CPR instruction part of high-school curriculums across the country. So far, ACT has helped to get CPR courses going in secondary schools throughout Ottawa and two nearby Ontario counties. Pilot programs are also under way in 16 high schools in Montreal and 18 in Toronto. As well, school boards in Edmonton and Vancouver are considering setting up programs, and ACT has had inquiries from scores of schools and boards across the country. "Our goal," says Sandra Clarke, ACT's executive director, "is to have CPR training in one grade of every Canadian high school in major centres by the year 2000."

Only 10 per cent of Canadians know how to use CPR

If that happens, a significant part of an entire generation of Canadians would grow up possessing basic knowledge of CPR—a vast improvement over the current situation that relies on adults volunteering for training by such organizations as the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation, the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance. About 75,000 Canadians a year have heart attacks—22,000 of them fatal. Statistics show that about seven out of 10 cardiac arrests happen at home, and many victims die simply because so few Canadians know how to provide CPR in the crucial first few minutes after the attack. Besides teaching students to recognize heart attacks and provide help, CPR instructors make students aware of the "denial response" common among victims—a refusal to acknowledge their own symptoms, often until it is too late. Most students who have been instructed say they like the CPR courses, which take about four hours of school time. "It was fun," says Carolyn Chevrier, a 14-year-old who received training at her Montreal high school earlier this year. "I hope it never happens, but if I had to, I could help a family member who had a heart attack."

One of the features that helps to win over school boards, says Clarke, is that except for the time teachers spend being trained themselves and instructing students, CPR courses in the schools cost virtually nothing. As well as contributing instruction manuals and other educational materials, ACT helps raise money for the training of teachers and canvasses local service clubs, corporations and charitable organizations for the modest funding needed to run the programs. The heaviest outlay is at the start

BE A PUBLISHED WRITER

Make money writing & earn while you learn.

The Writing School's home study course shows you how to write articles, short stories, novels and scripts that sell and keep on selling.

Your tutor will review your work showing you how to write material that's fresh and saleable.

In fact, if you haven't recovered your fees by the end of the course **YOU'LL RECEIVE A FULL REFUND.**

Send or call today for the **FREE** book that explains it all.

TOLL FREE. 1-800-267-1829

The Writing School
38 McArthur Avenue, Suite # 2915
Ottawa, Ontario K1L 6R2

A Message to our Readers about

"Scent Strips"...

Occasionally Maclean's will include advertisers' scent strips in its issues. If you prefer to receive scent-free issues please advise our Customer Service Department. Simply call us toll-free at 1-888-Macleans; 596-5523 in Toronto (9 a.m. - 7 p.m. EST) and we'll make sure your copies do not include scent strips.

Maclean's
WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

with the purchase of plastic head-and-torso mannequins that students use to practise CPR (cost per mannequin about $65).

In launching school-based CPR programs, it also helps to have a dedicated member of the local community to win over school boards and search out funding—someone like Dr. Justin Maloney, a physician specializing in emergency medicine at Ottawa General Hospital who teamed up with ACT in 1993 and played a key role in persuading Ottawa school boards to introduce CPR training—and the local Kiwanis Club and other organizations to help fund the program. As a result, says Maloney, "we now know that we're getting 10,000 new CPR providers from the school program each year."

In the neighboring Ontario counties of Prescott and Russell, east of Ottawa, Rene Berthiaume, a Hawkesbury, Ont.-based ambulance service operator, played a similar role in convincing school boards to launch CPR training last year. "Part of the challenge," says Berthiaume, "was people saying this couldn't be done in a rural area because of the smaller population spread over a large area—I wanted to prove that it could be." In Montreal, Shirley Straughton, a nurse at Montreal Children's Hospital and mother of two teenagers, played a key role in persuading schools to launch CPR training.

ACT's Clarke, a former Montreal child care worker who specialized in helping handicapped youngsters, got interested in CPR after her younger sister took a course in the late 1970s (the sisters' father died of a heart attack when he was 51). Clarke decided to take the course as well, went on to become an instructor and gradually became caught up in the idea of encouraging wider knowledge of the techniques. In 1985, she founded ACT, with funding (currently $250,000) provided by four drug companies—Astra Pharma Inc., Hoescht Marion Roussel Canada, Merck Frosst Canada Inc. and Parke-Davis. After mounting a series of national campaigns in an effort to make Canadians more aware of CPR, ACT switched its focus in 1994 to high schools.

One of the advantages of teaching CPR to teenagers, says Clarke, is that it also provides a natural opportunity for education about "heart health"—how low-fat eating habits and plenty of exercise can benefit Canadians' cardiovascular systems. Ideally, people trained in CPR should have periodic refresher courses. But even if they don't, says Clarke, "some training can be better than none. The important thing is giving help—quickly." With CPR instruction taking root in the school system, more Canadians should soon be able to provide vital assistance to family members, or total strangers when heart failure strikes.

MARK NICHOLS

THE CPR BASICS

Once learned, the steps are simple. But experts stress the importance of taking a course in the correct technique for cardiopulmonary resuscitation.



1. When someone has collapsed and is unconscious, immediately call for help by dialling 911.



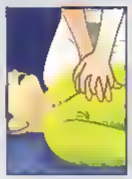
2. To clear possible airway obstruction by tongue, tilt back victim's head, lift chin, listen for breathing.



3. If victim is not breathing, pinch nostrils shut and cover victim's mouth with yours. Give two full breaths.



4. Check for pulse, by placing fingertips on victim's Adam's apple, then sliding them sideways into groove next to the windpipe. If there is no pulse, move on to the next step.



5. Place hands on lower part of victim's breastbone. Push to compress chest 15 times. If there is no sign of recovery, alternate mouth-to-mouth breathing and chest compressions until help arrives.

GREAT INTRODUCTORY OFFER:

Subscribe to CHATELAINE now and get a handsome Organizer as your Bonus Gift!





CHATELAINE covers the ideas and issues you want to know about. It keeps you connected so you can share ideas, wit, wisdom and experiences with other Canadian women.

As a CHATELAINE subscriber, you can look forward to articles on women's health issues...in-depth coverage of real-life situations...and inspiring stories of women surviving and thriving!

Take advantage of this great offer now and find out why Chatelaine should be your monthly must-read!

In the months to come, you'll enjoy enlightening interviews and personality profiles ...expert solutions to your career, financial and entrepreneurial questions...

...plus great ideas for updating your look, beautifying your home, and making great meals in minutes.

Please join us every month for a stimulating conversation in the pages of CHATELAINE, where Canadian women get it all, together.

And you're always welcome to drop in for a lively chat with other CHATELAINE readers at our Web site at www.chatelaine.com.

CHATELAINE INTRODUCTORY OFFER

☑ YES! Please send me 12 issues of CHATELAINE for just $19.98 (plus tax) – I save 44% off the cover price! And send my Bonus Organizer as soon as you receive my payment.

NAME ☐ MS. ☐ MRS. ☐ MR.

ADDRESS APT

CITY PROVINCE POSTAL CODE

☐ Payment enclosed (or charge my credit card) ☐ Bill me
☐ Cheque ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY DATE SIGNATURE

Total inc. Price $21.98 QC, NB, NF, NS $22.98. Offer valid only in Canada until 6/30/98.

CLIP COUPON & MAIL TO: CHATELAINE, Box 4003 Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 2B8 FAX: (416) 596-2510
E-MAIL: service@chatelaine.com or PHONE: 1-800-268-6812 (in Toronto 416-596-5523) and quote P8134AD PR35

Playing the airfare game

Travellers try to beat the odds

BY D'ARCY JENISH

Jean-Marie Tardif is sitting in the departure lounge at Montreal's Dorval Airport, with one of those cat-that-swallowed-the-canary smiles on his face. The reason for his satisfaction? "I'm flying back-to-back," confesses Tardif under his breath, leaning forward to display the Montreal-Toronto ticket in his hand. Tardif, a lighting technician with a Montreal manufacturer who often spends two weeks each month in Toronto is one of those frequent flyers who knows how to skirt the rules and buy heavily discounted seat-sale tickets normally reserved for leisure customers. He also knows that many North American airlines have cracked down on travel agents selling back-to-back tickets. And no wonder: just consider the economics of Tardif's travel. Over the past month, he had to make two Montreal-Toronto round-trips, and at full-fare economy would have paid $1,164. But by purchasing two sets of tickets at seat-sale prices—the so-called back-to-backs—he was able to avoid the weekend layover, a common requirement for lower fares, and paid only $594. The net saving to Tardif's employer: $570.

Back-to-back ticketing is one of the most popular methods of beating the system. Tardif bought two discounted tickets, each requiring a weekend layover. He used an outbound Montreal-Toronto coupon for the first of his two trips. To return home for the weekend, he used the Toronto-Montreal coupon from his second ticket. Later, he flew to Toronto using the return coupon on his second ticket, and flew home using the return portion of the first ticket.

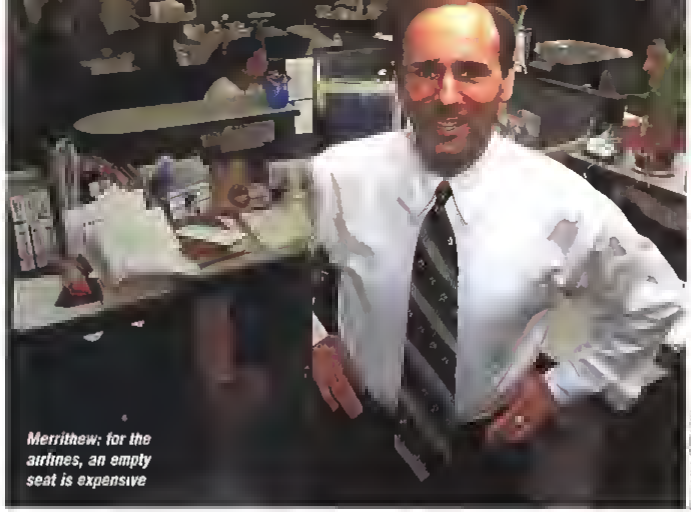
The attraction of back-to-back ticketing is obvious when flying full fare to Halifax or Vancouver, or anywhere in between, typically costs four to five times as much as catching a seat sale. And with a little ingenuity, many others are learning to beat down the cost. Take Winnipeg dentist Allan Osborn, 60, who wanted to fly to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in February. His travel agent quoted him a price of more than $1,200 return. Instead, he flew to Toronto on frequent flyer points, caught a charter and arrived at his destination for $350.

Even travel agents find ticket prices perplexing. For starters, the airlines do not publish their fares on a regular basis because they change so often. Some industry experts say airline ticket pricing now operates like a giant stock market. This country's two major scheduled carriers, Montreal-based Air Canada and Calgary-based Canadian Airlines, offer multiple fares, sometimes a dozen or more, on most of their hundreds of daily flights. Fares can change several times a day, and the two airlines watch each other's pricing like street corner rivals selling discount gasoline. If one launches a seat sale, the other almost invariably matches within hours.

The airlines must match wits not only with each other, but with the public as well, as they keep finding clever ways to cut their costs. When one Canadian carrier offered a Montreal-Seattle promotional fare for less than the cost of flying from Montreal to Vancouver, some travellers bought the cheaper ticket to the American city, but got off the plane during the Vancouver stopover, a practice known as "hidden cities." But the gimmick that most troubles the airlines is back-to-back ticketing, which has been very popular with corporate travellers over the past five years, according to Ron Pradnuk, who owns a Winnipeg business called Renaissance Travel and is a vice-president of the Association of Canadian Travel Agents. Within the past six months, Air Canada has issued debit memos to several agents who sold back-to-back tickets, and several have complied with the airline's demands that they make up the difference between the seat sale and full-fare prices. "Corporate clients are calling and saying they want these tickets," says Pradnuk. "It's putting us in a terrible bind."

Airline executives insist that every dollar of revenue is crucial to their bottom lines because the industry is notoriously unprofitable. Late last month, Canadian Airlines announced a year-end profit of $5.4 million, a major improvement over the previous five years when the company lost a total of $1.3 billion, and in late 1996, came close to going under. Air Canada, meanwhile, enjoyed its fourth straight profitable year, earning a company record $427 million. But between 1990 and 1993, the company's cumulative losses hit $1.1 billion. "The trick is to get as much revenue as possible from every flight," says Rupert Duchesne, Air Canada's vice-president of marketing, "because airlines are a great way to lose money. If you look at the past 50 years, worldwide, this business has lost money."

Craig Landry is on the front lines of that battle to stay profitable. Arriving at work on a Monday morning, he is happy to see that Canadian Airlines has made only a few minor fare adjustments over the weekend. Landry is a pricing analyst in Air Canada's 68-member revenue management department, the place where ticket prices are set and seats allocated by fare class on each of the airline's 680 daily departures.



Merrithew: for the airlines, an empty seat is expensive

Landry, who works in a small cubicle on the cramped fifth floor of the company's Montreal headquarters, begins every working day by logging on to his computer and checking what he calls "the overnight tape from ATP Co.," the Washington-based Airline Tariff Publishing Co. From Monday to Friday, every scheduled carrier in North America can electronically file fare changes. At 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., ATP Co. relays the information to travel agents worldwide.

On a recent Friday morning, Landry and his colleagues discovered that Canadian had launched a continent-wide seat sale overnight and filed more than 35,000 changes to the terms, conditions and prices of its tickets. Air Canada's revenue managers matched and in some cases bettered Canadian's offerings, racing to complete the job in time to file their changes with ATP Co. before 10 a.m. "We had a huge amount of work to do," said Landry. "But we can't afford to have Canadian out in the marketplace with prices lower than ours."

To do so is to risk losing reservations. A bargain-hunting consumer travelling from Toronto to Vancouver return in early April can choose from nine discounted fares on the two major airlines, ranging from $355 to $1,813, depending on advance booking and weekend stay requirements. The last-minute traveller, or the person who wants a ticket without stayover requirements or any other restrictions, will pay $2,292 for economy or $2,682 for business class. "Those are the fares airlines live and die on," says Barbara Amster, Canadian's senior vice-president of sales and marketing. "The discounted seats are the ones that probably won't sell. If we can get anything for them, we're better off than having an empty seat."

The revenue management departments meticulously track the sale of seats on every flight for months before departure. Their objective is to sell as many full-fare tickets as possible, and they use sophisticated software programs to predict how many can be sold at every fare category based on such factors as the history of a flight, economic growth, currency fluctuations and special events. In the months leading up to departure, seat allocation can change more than a dozen times. If the high-priced seats are selling quickly, the number of discounted ones are reduced. Likewise, if full-fare sales are sluggish, cheap seats are in better supply.

But airlines will always make room for the last-minute, full-fare passenger—even when a flight is sold out. Air Canada and Canadian routinely overbook because a certain percentage of passengers will not show up. When an aircraft unexpectedly fills up, seat-sale passengers are offered cash vouchers to change their plans. "They'll come right on the plane five minutes before departure offering $100, $200, $300," says Michael Merrithew, president of Uniglobe Advantage Travel in Toronto. "The discount passenger can travel free on the next flight and they're still ahead."

The price of full-fare tickets has forced many businesses to examine their travel costs. According to a recent survey of more than 700 firms by American Express Canada Inc., Canadian companies spent an estimated $4.7 billion on air travel last year, up from $4.3 billion in 1994. During that period, the number of companies trying to rein in travel budgets jumped to 62 per cent from 48 per cent, the survey revealed. "These costs are very high," says Pamela Arway, a senior vice-president with Amex Canada. "They're rising, and they're often quite inefficiently managed."

Many large companies, such as chartered banks, which spend as much as $50 million a year on fares, are realizing huge savings by negotiating discounts directly with the airlines. Some firms, adds Merrithew, now prohibit their employees from travelling business class on flights under three hours in duration. Others insist that staff members make their reservations well ahead of departure to get advance booking discounts. "When you know there's a high probability of your being able to travel," says Merrithew, "waiting until the last minute is unacceptable behavior in today's corporate world."

But for all the complexities of ticket pricing, airline executives still live by some simple, iron-clad principles, which they repeat with mantra-like frequency. "An empty seat is the most expensive one," says Canadian's Amster. "All the costs are still there, but you've lost the opportunity to sell it." Judging by their bottom lines, both Canadian carriers are learning how to win. □

READY FOR TAKEOFF

Passengers by fare category on a typical long-haul weekday Air Canada flight

11 on 3- or 7-day advance purchase discounts	4%
15 full-fare economy class	5%
28 full-fare executive class	10%
34 frequent flyer redemptions	12%
154 discounted fares	54%
242 sold	85%
42 unsold	15%

Total seats 284

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

Two upcoming flights in April offer a variety of fares

CANADIAN AIRLINES TORONTO-VANCOUVER RETURN

FARE CLASS	PRICE (excl. tax)	TERMS
BUSINESS	$2,682	No Restrictions
ECONOMY	$2,292	No Restrictions
7-DAY ADVANCE PURCHASE	$855	/365
14-DAY ADVANCE PURCHASE	$501	/30
NIGHT FLIGHT	$356	/90

AIR CANADA TORONTO-HALIFAX RETURN

FARE CLASS	PRICE (excl. tax)	TERMS
BUSINESS	$1,340	No Restrictions
ECONOMY	$1,146	No Restrictions
3-DAY ADVANCE PURCHASE	$902	/365
7-DAY ADVANCE PURCHASE	$528	/365
NIGHT FLIGHT	$324	/90

/30 Indicates flights requiring Saturday stay over and number of days ticket valid

Allan Fotheringham



Where the dead vote and skaters go topless



ROY PETERSON

What you have to know about Fisher Island is that it is a 10-minute ferry ride off a Miami freeway. When you get to the other side, a uniformed young man with an official garden hose greets you, so as to wash off the salt spray that may have despoiled your car on the 10-minute ride.

What you have to know is that Oprah Winfrey has a 540-square-metre apartment—and two satellite dishes—on top of one of the pink stone residences that speckle the 85-hectare isle. It is now known by the neighbors as the "Mad Cow Condo."

W. K. Vanderbilt fancied the place as a winter retreat. So he traded his huge yacht Eagle to Carl Fisher, a Florida developer who played croquet here in the mandatory blazer and tie, in return for the island. There are pictures on the ferry of Vanderbilt, flying in his Sikorsky Amphibian, nipping down from New York for a suntan.

This is all part of the dichotomy of Miami, the Hispanic home of the Helms-Burton legislation that would punish Canada and Canadians for treating Cuba like an ordinary country. No one said Miami—or Jesse Helms—had to be logical.

Along with Fisher Island, there is South Beach. Home of the young and the useless. Miami is the World Capital of Pastel, a city that seems frozen in the 1940s. South Beach is like a bad pastiche of what Muscle Beach outside Los Angeles used to look like.

There is a guy, who lost his youth long ago, in flesh-colored stretch pants doing a crazy dance while thousands of pedestrians pretend they don't notice him—in case he interprets their attention as encouragement. Custom-painted Harley-Davidsons, obviously worth your mortgage, line the curb.

There is volleyball nightly at the Twelfth Street Beach Club, just opposite the Tides—the new trendy hotel just down from the Versace mansion. It has become a shrine, naturally, akin to the Dakota on Central Park in Manhattan where John Lennon too was gunned down.

Guns are regarded as playthings in Miami. A stroller on South Beach is startled to come upon a 1930s classic black Packard coupe and—seated inside—Bogie himself, with a pistol in his mitt.

Inside the Tides lobby—off-white chairs and sofas and cream-colored marble—the walls are lined with quotes from Oscar Wilde. "I can withstand everything except temptation." The charming young waiter on the patio, left a $20 bill for a $12 charge, asks "Do you want change?" Very charming. Very Miami.

On Fisher Island, protected from the masses by that 10-minute ferry ride and the garden hose, residents zoom about the paved walkways on golf carts. Some of them, as an upper-class joke, are equipped with Rolls-Royce grilles. On South Beach, topless Rollerbladers—bobbing and weaving—are constant threats of danger as they zoom down the sidewalks.

It's a city of confusion, in confusion, because it can't make peace between its wealth and the infusion of Cuban refugees who have taken control of the civic structure. In November's mayoral election—contested by two Cuban-Americans—the Hispanics who are just over 50 per cent of registered voters cast 70 per cent of the votes. The whiteys have given up.

A judge has now declared the results of that election invalid—too many dead people voting—and a major magazine declares Miami one of "The 10 most corrupt cities in America." Right up there with Youngstown, Ohio, Las Vegas, Nev., Kansas City, Mo.—and Washington.

It is amidst this ambience that Canadians might consider the threat of Helms-Burton, the elephant telling the mouse that it dare not have any trade or truck with Castro's Cuba, a troubled and impoverished isle that will need all help necessary when the egomaniac ruler soon leaves.

The basic drive, and support, of the Helms-Burton edict naturally comes from Florida, which Bill Clinton's Democrats must win with all its rich electoral votes if they are to elect Al Gore/Richard Gephardt—Bill Bradley actually—in the year 2000.

Miami, supposedly the anchor stone of the second-fastest-growing state in the nation, is a very unstable city. Where the just-deposed mayor runs around in his chauffeured limousine in a bathrobe. And where clutches of his high city officials and judges are now in the slammer thanks to piggery-pokery that Al Capone (who used to live on Fisher Island) would applaud.

Clinton, the Unabanger with his own personal problems in mind, has attempted to put the Helms-Burton threat on the back burner while he plays golf with Jean Chretien, the famed non lingual. He knows that the PM knows he needs Florida's anti-Castro votes to keep a Democrat in the White House next time around.

It's hilarious that Fisher Island and the Mad Cow Condo and South Beach and its Rollerbladers are involved in all this.



GMC JIMMY. 365 DAYS A YEAR.

The name's Jimmy. And Jimbo or Big Jim are more fitting given its truck heritage. But now with its redesign, this GMC is as comfortable on the way to the ballet as it is to the chalet.

Inside the SLT 4x4 model shown here, you're treated to luxuries like leather seats, electronic climate controls and a smooth quiet ride.

Despite being worthy of the name James, this Jimmy is no prissy luxury car. And its 190 horsepower Vortec engine, shift-on-the-fly 4-wheel drive, and up to 5000-pound towing capacity make sure of that.

Visit your local Pontiac/Buick/GMC dealer for a test drive. And experience this GMC's style and strength for yourself. We know you'll be so at ease with it, you'll prefer to call your sport utility Jimmy.

For more information, visit our web site at www.gmcanada.com™ or call 1-800-GM-DRIVE.

SO REFINED,
YOU'LL BE TEMPTED TO
CALL IT JAMES.



www.gmcanada.com is a trademark of General Motors Corporation